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Epitaphes, Epigrams, 3867 SONGS AND SONETS,

of the Friendly affections of Tymetes

to Pyndara
his Ladie.

Dewly corrected, with addi-

George Turbervile,

Gentleman.

Anno Domini 1567.

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To the Right Noble and his singular good Lady, Lady Anne, Countesse War-

NOTICE.

We have here reproduced the earliest known edition of Turbervile's "Epitaphes, Epigrams, Songs, and Sonets": of that only a single copy remains, and no public or private library contains any exemplar prior to it. Even that single copy is deficient of a leaf, which, however, we have supplied from the same old printer's edition of 1570; and in order that no mistake may be made, we have included the contents of the leaf within brackets.

J. P. C.

PR 2384

To the Right Noble and his singular good Lady, Lady Anne, Countesse Warwick, &c. George Turbervile wisheth increase of honor with all good happes.

As at what time (Madame) I first published this fond and slender treatise of Sonets, I made bolde with you in dedication of so unworthy a booke to so worthie a Ladie, so have I now also rubde my browe, and wiped away all shame in this respect, adventuring not to cease, but to increase my former sollie, in adding moe Sonets to those I wrote before: so much the more abusing, in mine owne conceite, your Ladishippes patience, in that I had pardon before of my rash attempt. But see (madame) what presumption raignes in retchlesse youth! You accepted that my first offer, of honorable and meere curtesse, and I, thereby encouraged, blush not to procede in the like trade of sollie, alwayes hoping for the lyke acceptance at your hands; which if should faile me (as I hope it shal not faile) then should I hereaster not once so

much as dare as to set pen to paper for feare of controlment and check; which howe grievous it is to a yong man, nowe (as it were) but tasting with his lippe the brim of learnings fountaine, and faluting the Muscs at the doore and thresholl, neyther is your Ladiship ignorant, and I my selfe presume to Wherfore, as I have (Madame) by a little inlarging this booke, inlarged not a little my follie, so is my humble fute to you a little to inlarge your bounteous curtesie; I meane in well accepting the increase of these my follies, proceding not so much upon any light affection, as desire to acknowledge a greater dutie. It shall not be long (I hope) but that my hande shall seeke, in some part, the requitall of your bountie by some better devise, though not more learned treatise. But what shoulde I stande upon termes of skill? knowing that it is not the worke that your Ladiship doth so much regarde as the writer, neyther the worthinesse of the thing, as the good will and meaning of the deviser therof, offering his dutie in fuch wife as best aunsweres his abilitie and power. For as if subjectes shoulde have respect more to the unworthinesse of fuch things as they give their princes, than regard the worthie mindes and good natures of their foveraignes in well accepting fuch slender trifles at their vassels handes, they should quyte be discouraged from ever offering the like and slender giftes: so, if I should cast an eie rather to the basenesse of my booke than account of your noble nature and accustomed curtefie in well receyving the same, neither should I heretofore enboldned my selfe so farre as to have offred you this trifling treatife, nor now have the hart to adventure anew, although somewhat purged of his former faults and scapes. I cannot leave to molest your noble eics with survey of my rashe compiled toyes. It may please your Ladyship to wey my well meaning hart, at what time occasion ministers you the perusing of my booke, and this to deeme, that desire alone to manifest my dutie to you was the onely cause of this my Which done, I have at this time no more to enterprise. trouble your Ladyship, but ending my Epistle, to crave the Gods your happie preservation of present honor, and luckic increase of blessed happes in all your life.

Your Ladiships daily Orator,

GEORGE TURBERVILE.

TO THE READER.

HERE have I (gentle Reader) according to promife in my Translation, given thee a fewe Sonets, the unripe feedes of my barraine braine, to pleasure and recreate thy wearye mind and troubled hed withal; trufting that thou wylte not loth the bestowing thy time at vacant houres in perusing the same, waying that for thy solace alone (the bounden dutie which I owed the noble Cowntesse reserved) I undertoke this flender toyle, and not for anye pleafure I did my felfe in penning thereof. As I deeme thou canst not, fo do I hope thou wilt not, mislike it at all; but if there be any thing herein that maye offend thee, refuse it: reade and peruse the reast with pacience. Let not the misliking of one member procure thee rashlye to condemne the whole: I ftand to thy judgement; I expect thy æquitie. Reade the good, and reject the evill: yea, rather condemne it to perpetuall filence; for fo woulde I wyshe thee to deale wyth unworthye bookes. But affuredlye there is nothing in thys whole flender volume that was ment amisse of me, the writer, howsoever the letter goe in

thy judgement that arte the reader. Whatsoever I have penned, I write not to this purpose, that any youthlie head shoulde folow or pursue such fraile affections, or taste of amorous bait; but by meere siction of these fantasies, I woulde warne (if I myghte) all tender age to slee that sonde and silthie affection of poysoned and unlawful love. Let this be a glasse and myrror for them to gaze upon: the soner may I (I trust) prevayle in my perswasion, for that my selfe am of their yeares and disposition. And as I am not the first that in this fort hath written and imployde his time, so shall I not be the last, that without defarte (perhaps) shalbe misdeemed for attempting the same. But let those curious knightes cast an eye to home, and looke well about, whether they them selves are blamelesse, or as well worthic reproche as others.

This done and my intent confidered, hoping of thy courtefie, I ende, alwayes readie to pleasure thee by my pains, wishing unto thee, that arte the patient reader, as to my felf, the writer, and thy very friend.

GEORGE TURBERVILE.

To the rayling Route of Sycophants.

If he that once encountred with his foes
In open field at found of blafted trumpe,
Doe dare to yeelde his hewed head to bloes,
And go again to heare the canons thumpe,
With dreadlesse hart and unappalled brest,
Not fearing till he be by foes opprest:

If fuch as earft in cutting of the furge,
By paffing to the ftraunge and forraine lande,
Bode bitter blaft and fcornefull Neptunes fcurge,
Dreade not to take the lyke attempt in hande,
But rafhly runne like fturdie ventrous wights,
Not fearing wind nor wave when Borias fights:

If these (I say) doe nothing doubt at all,
But valiantly give fresh affault anew,
Not dreading daunger that is like to fall,
As they long earst by prouse and practise knew;
Then why should I, of yore that have affayde
The force of Zoylls mouth, be ought dismayde?

Then why should I, like one that fearde to fight,
Or never crusht his head with helmets heft,
Now shew my felse a weake and coward wight
As long as life or lym uncut is left?
For Ovid earst did I attempt the like,
And for my felse now shall I stick to strike?

No, no; I martch gainst Momus once againe.

My courage is not quailde by cruell so:

Though Zoyll did his best my flag to gaine,

Twas not his hap to have the conquest so;

And since it was my luck to scape his might,

I here affaile the beaft with novell fight.

Thou Sycophant, unsheath thy shamefull blade, Pluck out that bloudie fawchon (dascard thou) Wherewith thou hast full many a skirmish made, And scocht the braines of many a learned brow: Now dee thy woorst; I force not of thy stroke: Thou shalt not bring my neck to servage yoke.

Though thou affirme with rash and railing jawes
That I *invita* have Minerva made
My other booke, I gave thee no such cause
By any deede of mine to drawe thy blade:
But since thou hast shot out that shamelesse worde,

I here gainst thee uncote my cruell sworde.

I know thou wilt eche worde and fentence wrie
That in this flender booke of me is write,
And wilt the fame unto thy fense applie,
Hoping for love thereby to breede dispite:
And looke, what I amisse did never meane,
Thou wilt mistake and eke misconster cleane.

Thou wilt the wylie braine, that ought is bent To fowle fuspect and spot of fell distrust, Perswade that here something of him was ment, And jealous coales into his bosom thrust; Thincking thereby thy purpose to aspire In setting of his boyling breast a fire.

But as thou art in all thy other deedes

Deferving no beleefe or truft at all,

Likewife what fo from thy vile jawes proceedes

Is lothfome lie, fowle fitton, bitter gall.

Beleve him not, but reade the treatife through:

He fowes debate with helpe of hatefull plough.

The modest mind that meanes but vertues trade, And shunnes the shamefull shop of bawdie sect, This spitefull beast will (if he may) perswade That these are toyes, for that he should reject

And not peruse the meaning of the same:

Thus Zoyll seekes but blot of black defame,

But thou that vewste this stile with staid brow,

Marke erie worde, unjoint eche verse of mine,

Thy judgement I, and censure will allow,

Nor once will seeme for rancour to repine:

Thou art the man whose sentence I expect;

I scorne the scosses of Zoylls shamefull sect.

FINIS.

EPITAPHES, EPIGRAMS, SONGS AND SONETS.

In prayfe of the renowmed

Ladie Anne, Ladie Cowntesse Warwicke.

WHEN Nature first in hande did take
The clay to frame this Countesse corse,
The Earth a while shee did forsake,
And was compelde of verie force,
With mowlde in hande, to slee to skies,
To ende the worke shee did devies.

The Gods that tho in counfell fate,
Were halfe amazde (againft their kinde:)
To fee so neere the stoole of state
Dame Nature stande, that was assigned
Among hir worldly impes to wonne,
As shee until that day had donne.

First Jove began: What (daughter deere) Hath made thee scorne thy fathers will? Why doe I see thee (Nature) heere, That oughtst of dutie to sulfill Thy under taken charge at home: What makes thee thus abroade to rome?

Difdainefull dame, how didft thou dare So retchleffe to depart the grownde That is alotted to thy fhare? (And therewithall his Godhead frownde.) I will [quoth Nature] out of hande Declare the cause I fled the lande.

I undertooke of late a peece
Of claye, a featurde face to frame
To match the courtly dames of Greece,
That for their beautie beare the name;
But (Oh good father) now I fee
This worke of mine it will not bee.

Vicegerent fince you mee affignde Belowe in Earth, and gave me lawes On mortall wightes, and willde that kinde Should make and marre, as fhee fawe caufe, Of right (I think) I may appeale And crave your helpe in this to deale.

When Jove fawe how the cafe did ftande, And that the worke was well begonne, Hee prayde to have the helping hande Of other Gods till hee had donne: With willing mindes they all agreede, And fet upon the clay with fpeede.

First Jove eche limme doth well dispose, And makes a creature of the clay:
Next Ladie Venus she bestowes
Hir gallant gifts as best shee may:
From face to soote, from top to toe,
Shee let no whit untoucht to goe.

When Venus had donne what flue coulde In making of hir (carcas) brave, Then Pallas thought fine might be bolde Among the reaft a fhare to have: A paffing wyt fine did convaye Into this paffing peece of claye.

Of Bacchus fhee no member had, Save fingars five and feate to fee: Hir head with heare Apollo clad, That Gods had thought it golde to bee: So gliftring was the treffe in fight Of this newe formde and featurde wight.

Diana helde hir peace a fpace,
Untill those other God had doune:
At last (quoth shee) in Dians chase
Wyth bowe in hande this nymph shall roune;
And chiese of all my noble traine
I will this virgin entertaine.

Then joyfull Juno came and fayde:
Since you to hir fo friendly are,
I doe appoint this noble mayde
To match with Mars his peere for warre:
She shall the Cowntesse Warwick bee,
And yeelde Dianas bowe to mee.

When to fo good effect it came, And every member had hys grace, There wanted nothing but a name: By hap was Mercurie then in place, That fayde, Pray you all agree Pandora graunt hir name to bee.

For since your Godheads forged have With one affent this noble dame, And eche to hir a vertue gave, This terme agreeth to the fame. The Gods that heard Mercurius tell This tale did lyke it passing well.

Report was fommonde then in haft, And wilde to bring his trumpe in hande, To blowe therewith a fownding blaft That might be heard through Brutus lande: Pandora! ftreight the trumpet blewe That eche this Cownteffe Warwicke knewe.

O fielie Nature borne to paine,
O wofull wretched kinde (I fay)
That to forfake the foyle were faine
To make this Cownteffe out of claye!
But oh, most friendly Gods, that woulde
Vouchsafe to fet your handes to mowlde!

¶ The Argument to the whole difcourse and Treatise following.

By fedaine fight of unacquainted fhape Tymetes fell in love with Pyndara, Whofe beautie farre excelde Sir Paris rape, That poets cleape the famous Helena.

His flame at first he durst not to displaye, For search e should offended Pyndara; But covert kept his torments many a daye, As Paris did from worthic Helena.

At length the coale so fierie redde became Of him that so did fansie Pyndara, That suming smoke did wrie the hidden slame To hir that farre exceeded Helena.

Which when fhee faw, fhee feemde with friendly eie To like with him that lyked Pyndara:
And made as though fhee would eftsoone applie To him, as to hir guest did Helena.

Tymetes (looving man) then hoped well, And moovde his fute to Ladie Pyndara: He plide his penne and to his writing fell, And fude as did the man to Helena.

Within a while, difpayring wretched wight!
He found his loue (the Ladie Pyndara)
So ftraunge and coye, as though fhe tooke delight
To paine hir friend, as did faire Helena.

Another time hir cheere was fuch to fee, That poore Tymetes hoapte that Pyndara Woulde yeelde him grace; but long it woulde not bee: She kept aloofe as did Dame Helena.

Thus twixt dispaire and hope the doubtfull man Long space did live that loved Pyndara, In wofull plight. At last the nymph began To quite his love, as did faire Helena.

Then joyed he, and cherefull ditties made In praife of his atchived Pyndara; But fone (God wote) his pleafure went to glade: Another tooke too wife this Helena.

Thus ever as Tymetes had the cause Of joy or smart, of comfort or refuse, He glad or griefull woxe, and ever drawes His present state with pen, as here ensues.

To a late acquainted Friende.

IF Vulcan durft prefume
that was a Gnuffe to fee,
And ftrake with hammer on the ftithe

And strake with hammer on the stithe a cunning smith to bee,

Whose chiefe and whole delight was aye to frie at forge,

And liften to that melodie fmithes forrowes to difgorge:

If Vulcan durft (I faye)

Dame Venus to affaile,

That was the worthyfte wight of all, if witnesse may prevaile,

Then may you muse the lesse, though fancie force me wright

To you a fecond Venus (friende) and Helen in my fight:

For what he faw in hir, a goddesse by hir kinde,

That I in you (my chosen friende)
And somewhat else doe finde.

And as that fielie fmith by Cupid was procurde

To fawne on hir, to whome in fine hee firmely was affurde;

So by none other meanes my fenses are in thrall,

But by procurement of the God that conquers Gods and all.

Tis hee that make[s] mee bolde, tis hee that willes me fue

To thee (my late acquainted friende) loves torment to eschue.

Not to this day was feene that any durft rebell

Or kicke at Cupid, Prince of Love, as learned poets tell:

But rather would with free and uncoacted minde

Applie to please in any case what so the God assignde.

What neede I here difplaye the fpoyles by Cupid wonne?

Not I, but you (my friende) woulde faint ere half the tale were donne.

His banner doth declare what harts have beene fubdude,

Where they are all in fabels fet, with blood and gore imbrude.

Not mightie Mars alone, nor Hercules the ftoute,

But other Gods of greater state, There ftanding in a route:

There may you plainely fee how Jove was once a fwanne

To lure faire Leda to his luft when raging loue beganne:

Some other when a bull,

Some other time a showre

Of golden drops, as when he coyde the closed Nunne in towre.

Appollos love appeares, and ever will be knowne,

As long as lawrell leaves shall last, and Daphnes brute be blowne.

May brainfick Bacchus brag, or boaft himfelfe as free?

Not I, but Aryadnas crowne flewes him in love to bee.

Since these and other mo, that Gods were made by kinde, Might not avoyde that guilefull God

that winged is and blinde, Should I have hope to fcape

by force, or elfe by flight,

That in respect of those his thralls am of so slender might?

As they did yeelde to love for feare of Cupids yre,

Euer fo am I become his thrall by force of flaming fyre.

What time I first displayde mine eies upon thy face,

(That doth allure eche lookers hart)

I did the[e] P. imbrace;

And fince that time I feele within my breaft fuch joye,

As Paris never felt the like when Helen was at Troye.

How coulde fo barraine foyle bring forth fo good a graffe,

To whome the reaft, that feeme good corne, are in respect but chaffe?

('

(O God) that Cupid woulde upon thy breaft beftowe

His golden fhaft, that thou the force of lyking love mightft knowe:

Then should I stande in hope, and well assured bee,

That thou wouldn't be as friendly (P.) as I am now to thee.

Whome (till thy friendship fayle, and plighted hest doe swerve)

I vaunt and vowe by mightie Jove with hart and hande to ferve.

My fenfes all take heede, and yee, my wits, beware

That you attentive be on hir and for no other care.

You eies, that woonted were light loving lookes to caft,

I give commaundment on hir here that yee be ankred fast.

Mine eares, admit no founde, ne womans woords at all;

Be thut againft fuch Syrens fongs repleate with lurking gall.

Tongue, fee that thou be tyde, and use no wanton ftile:

By lawe of love I thee conjure fuch toyes to exile.

Legges, looke that yee be lame when you fhould reache a place

To take the vewe of Venus nymphes Pees beautie to deface.

For fuch a one is fhee whome I would will you ferve,

As to be plafte for Pallas peere for wifedome may deferve.

So conftant are hir lookes, and eake as chafte a face,

As if that Lucrece living were fhee Lucrece would difgrace:

So modeft is hir mirth in erie time and tyde,

As they that prick most nearste of all their shiverde shafts are wyde.

Paufe, pen, a while therefore, and ufe thy woonted meane:

For Boccas braine, and Chaucers quill in this were foyled cleane.

Of both might neither boaft if they did live againe;

For P. would put them to their shifts to pen hir vertues plaine.

Yet one thing will I vaunt, and after make an ende,

That Momus can not for his lyfe devife one jote to mende.

Thus to conclude at length, fee thou (my friend) peruse

This flender verse, till leysure serve abrode to bring my Muse;

For then you shall perceive by that which you shall see,

That you have made your choise, as well As I by choosing P.

The Lover extolleth the fingular beautie of his Ladie.

LET Myron muse at natures passing might, And quite resigne his pievish painters right, For sure he can not frame hir seaturde shape, That for hir sace excels the Greekish rape.

Let Zeuxis grapes not make him proude at all, Though fowles for them did fkyr againft a wall; For if hee should assay my love to paint, His art would sayle, his cunning sift would saint.

Let Praxitell prefume with penfill rude Base things to blaze the people to delude: Hir seaturde limmes to drawe let him not dare, That with the sayre Diana may compare.

Though Venus forme Apelles made fo well, As Greece did judge the painter to excell, Yet let not that enbolde the Greeke to grave Hir shape, that beauties praise deserves to have.

For nature, when she made hir, did entende To paint a peece that no man might amende: A paterne for the reast, that after shoulde Be made by hande, or cast in cunning moulde.

The Lover declareth how first he was taken, and enamoured by the sight of his Ladie.

I HAVING never earft the craft of Cupid tride,

Ne yet the wylie wanton wayes of Ladie Venus fpide,

But fpent my time in fporte as youth is woont by kinde,

Not forcing fanfies pinching powre that other wights did blinde,

By fortune founde a face that lykte my hart fo well,

As by the fodaine vewe thereof to fanfies frame I fell.

No fooner had mine eies upon hir beautie ftayde,

But wit and will without respect were altogither wayde.

Unwarely fo was none in fuch a fnare before:

The more I gazde upon hir face, I lykte my love the more.

Forthwith I thought my hart out of his roome was rapt.

And wits (that woonted were to wayte on reason) were intrapt.

Downe by mine eies the ftroke descended to the hart,

Which Cupid never crazde before by force of golden dart.

My bloud that thought it bounde his maisters part to take,

No longer durst abide abroade, but outwarde limmes forsake.

Which having beene in breaft, and froftie colde difmayde,

It hasted from the hart againe externall partes to ayde,

And brought with it fuch heate as did enflame the face.

Diftayning it with fearlet redde by rafhnesse of the race.

And fince that time I feele fuch pangues and inwarde fits,

As now with hope, and then with feare, encombred are my wits.

Thus must I, miser, live till shee by friendly ruth

Doe pittie mee hir loving thrall, whose deedes shall trie his truth.

Thrife luckie was the day, thrife happie eake the place,

And yee (mine eies) thrife bleffed were that lighted on hir face.

If I in fine may force hir pittie by my plaint,

I shall in cunningst verse I may hir worthie prayse depaint.

There is one thing makes me joy, and bids me think the beft;

That cruell rigor can not lodge where beautie is possest.

And fure unleffe fhe falve and heale this cankred wounde

By yeelding grace, it must in time of force my corps consounde:

For long it may not last that in such anguish lies;

Extreames in no case can endure, as sages did devise.

No tyger gaue hir teate, she is no lyons whelpe;

Ne was she bred of cruell rocks, nor will renounce to helpe

Such as she paines with love, and doth procure to wo:

She is not of the currish kinde, hir nature is not so.

Maister Googe his sonet of the paines of Loue.

Twoo lynes shall tell the griefe that I by loue sustaine:
I burne, I slame, I faint, I freeze, of hell I feele the paine.

Turberviles aunswere and distich to the same.

Twoo lynes shall teach you how to purchase ease anewe:

Let reason rule where love did raigne, and ydle thoughts eschewe.

¶ An Epitaphe on the death of Dame Elyzabeth Arhundle.

HERE graved is a good and godly wight, That yeelded hath hir cynders to the foyle, Who ran hir race in vertues tylt aright, And never had at Fortunes hand the foyle: The guide was God whome shee did aye ensue, And Vertue was the marke whereat she thrue.

Descending of a house of worthie fame, Shee linckt at length with one egall state, Who though did chaunge hir first and former name, Did not ensorce hir vertues to rebate; For Dannat shee Dame Arhundle was hight, Whose seere was knowne to be a worthy knight.

Hir beautie I not blaze ne brute at all, (Though with the best she might therein compare) For that it was to age and fortune thrall: Hir thewes I touch, which were so passing rare, As being earthde and reast hir vitall breath, Hir chiefest part doth live and conquer death.

Let fpite not spare to speake of hir the wurst, Let envie seede upon hir godly life,
Let rancour rage, let hatreds bellie burst,
Let Zoill now unsheath his cutting knife;
For death hath closed hir corfe in marble grave,
Hir soule is sled in skies his seate to have.

Let Leyster laugh that such a mirrour bred, Let matrons mourne for losse of their renowne, Let Cornewall crie since Dannat now is ded, Let Vertue eke doe on hir mourning gowne; For she is rest that was at Vertues beck, Whome Fortune had no powre to give the check.

To Picro of Pride.

FRIEND Piero, pride infects a friendly minde; The haughtie are purfude with deadly hate: Wherfore efchue the proude peacocks kinde, That greedie are to fit on stoole of state: The lowly hart doth winne the love of all, But pride at last is sure of shamefull fall.

Piero to Turbervile.

GOOD is the counfell (Turbervile) you give: It is a vertue rare well to advife, But if your felfe in peacocks fort doe live Men deemen may you are not perfite wife; Whose chiefest point in act consisteth aye: Well doing farre excelleth well to saye.

Verse in prayse of Lorde Henrye Howarde, Earle of Surrey.

What should I fpeake in prayse of Surreys skill, Unlesse I had a thousand tongues at will? No one is able to depaint at full, The flowing sountaine of his facred skull; Whose pen approaved what wit he had in mue, Where such a skill in making Sonets grue. Eche worde in place with such a sleight is coucht, Eche thing whereof he treates so firmely toucht, As Pallas seemde within his noble breast

To have fojournde, and beene a daylie gueft. Our mother tongue by him hath got fuch light, As ruder speach thereby is banisht quight: Reprove him not for fansies that he wrought, For fame thereby and nothing elfe he fought. What though his verse with pleasant toyes are fright, Yet was his honours life a lampe of light: A mirrour he the fimple fort to traine, That ever beate his brayne for Britans gaine. By him the nobles had their vertues blazde, When spitefull death their honors lives had razde: Eche that in life had well deferved aught, By Surreys meanes an endles fame hath caught. To quite his boone and aye well meaning minde, Whereby he did his fequell feeme to binde, Though want of skill to filence me procures, I write of him whose fame for ave endures; A worthie wight, a noble for his race, A learned lorde that had an Earles place.

Of Falousic.

A STRAUNGE difease, a griefe exceeding great, A man to have his hart in flame inrolde, In fort that he can never choose but sweate, And seele his seete benumbe with frosty colde. No doubt, if he continue in this heate, He will become a cooke hereaster olde; Of such diseases such is the effect, And this in him we may full well suspect.

To his Ladie, that by hap when he kiffed hir and made hir lip bleed, controld him and tooke difdaine.

DISCHARGE thy dole, Thou fubtile foule. It standes in little steede To curffe the kiffe That causer is Thy chirrie lip doth bleede. Thy bloud afcends To make amends For domage thou haft donne; For by the same I felt a flame More fcorching than the funne. Thou reftft my harte By fecret arte, My fprites were quite fubdude: My fenses fled

And I was ded;
Thy lippes were fcarce imbrude.
The kiffe was thine,
The hurt was mine.

My hart felt all the paine; Twas it that bled And lookte fo red,

I tell thee once againe.

But if you long

To wreake your wrong
Upon your friendly fo,

Come, kiffe againe, And put to paine The man that hurt you fo.

Mayster Googe his Sonet.

ACCUSE not God, if fansie fonde doe moove thy foolish braine To wayle for love; for thou thy selfe art cause of all the paine.

Turberviles aunswere.

Not God (friend Googe) ye lover blames, as worker of his woes; But Cupid that his fierie flames fo frantickly bestowes.

A comparison of the Lovers estate with the Souldiars painefull lyse.

IF fouldiers may, for fervice done, and labours long fuftainde,
For wearie watch, and perils paft, and armes with armour painde,
For pufh of pike, for holbers ftroke, for ftanding in the frunt,
If they expect rewarde (I fay)
for byding battayles brunt,

Then what shall Cupids captaines crave, what recompense defire,

That warde the day, and wake the night, confumde with fretting fire?

No roome of rest, no time of truce, no pleading for a peace:

When Cupid founds his warlike trumpe, the fight will never cease.

First shall you see the shivering shafts, and vewe the thirled darts,

Which from their eies they cast by course to pierce their enmies harts.

But if the foe doe stande aloofe, (as is the lovers guife)

Then canons with their cruell cracks as thick as thunder flies.

Sweete wordes in place of powder stande by force which think to win,

That loving lookes of late had loft when fight did first begin.

But on the breast to beare the brunt and keepe them from the hart,

A fure and privie cote is worne, repelling pellats fmart.

They ftop their eares against the found, which is the furest shielde

Against the dreadfull shot of wordes that thousandes had beguilde.

But when Cupidians flatly fee nor gunne, nor bowe prevaile,

They then begin their friendly foes with other fight taffaile.

Then fet the daskardes dreade aside, and to the walles they run,

As though they woulde fubdue the forte or ere the fight begun.

Forthwith the fcaling ladders come, and to the walles are fet;

Then fighes and fobs begin to clime, but they are quickly met.

Thus Cupid and his fouldiers all the sharpe repulse sustaine,

Whome Beauty batters from the walles, whose captaine is Difdaine.

When all are gone and yeeld it loft, comes Hope and whote Defire,

To fee where they can have the hap to fet the forte afire:

But nought prevailes their lingring fight; they can not Beautie win,

Yet doe they skirmish still behinde in hope to enter in.

At length, when Beautie doth perceyve those fouldiers are so true,

That they will never from the walles till they the holde fubdue,

She calles to Pittie for the keyes, and bids hir let them in,

In hope they will be true to hir as they to Love had bin.

The gates no fooner are unlockt, but fouldiers all retire,

And enter into Beauties forte with Hope and hote Defire.

Now judge by this that I have faide
of these two fightes aright,
Which is the greatest toyle of both
when warlike tents are pight:
For Mars his men sometime have ease,
and from their battaile blin,
But Cupids souldiers ever serve,
till they Dame Beautie win.

The Lover against one that compared his Mistresse with his Ladie.

A MADNESSE to compare the pipler with the pine, Whereof the mariner makes his maft. and hanges it all with line! A follie to preferre a lampe before the Sunne, Or brag that Balams lumpish affe with Bucephall fhall runne! Then, cease for shame to vaunt. and crowe in craking wife Of hir that least deserves to have hir beauties fame arife. Thou, foolish dame, beware of haughtie peacocks pride; The fruite thereof in former age hath fundrie times bene tride. Arachne can expresse how angrie Pallas was,

When shee in needle worke would seeme the heavenly wight to passe:

The fpider fhewes the fpite that fhee (good wench) abid;

In token of hir pride fhee hanges at roufe by rotten thrid.

No foode fhee hath allowde, leffe fortune fende the flie;

The cobwed is hir coftly couch appointed hir to lie.

With venim ranck and vile hir wombe is like to burft,

A token of hir inwarde hate, and hawtie minde at furst.

And thou that furely thinkft thy ladie to excell,

Example take of others harme for judgement that befell.

When Pan, the paftors Prince, and Rex of ruftick route,

To paffe Apollo in his play and mufick went aboute,

Mount Tmolus was the judge that there the roome poffert,

To give his verdite for them both, which uttered musick best.

First came the rustick forth with pipe and pussed bag,

That made his eies to run like streames, and both his lips to wag.

The noyfe was fomewhat rude, and ragged to the eare;

The fimplest man alive would gesse that pievish Pan was there.

Then Phœbus framde his frets, and wrested all his pinnes,

And on his curious ftrings to ftrike the fkilfull God beginnes:

So passing was his play as made the trees to daunce,

And stubborne rocks in deepest vales for gladsome joy to praunce.

Amphyon blusht as red as any glowing flame;

And Orpheus durst not shew his face, but hide his head for shame.

Ynough! quoth Tmolus tho, my judgement is that Pan

May pipe among the ruder fort that little musick can:

Apollos playe doth passe of all that ere I hearde;

Wherefore (as reason is) of mee the Luter is preferde.

Meanewhile was Mydas preft, not pointed judge in place,

But (lyke a dolt that went about Apollo to deface).

Tushe, Tmolus, tushe! quoth hee,
Pan hath the better skill;

For hee the emptie bagge with winde and ftrouting blaft doth fill.

Apollo wagges his joints and makes a jarring founde;

Lyke pleafure is not in the lute as in the bagpipe founde.

No fooner had hee fpoke those witlesse wordes and fed,

But Phœbus graft on affes eares upon his beaftly hed.

In proofe of judgement wrong that Mydas did maintaine,

Hee had a paire of fowfing eares to shilde him from the raine.

Wherefore (my friende) take heede of afterclaps that fall:

And deeme not hir a dearling that deferves no prayfe at all.

Your judgement is beguilde, your fenses suffer shame:

That so doe seeke to blaze hir armes, and to advaunce hir same.

Let hir go hide hir head in lothfome lurking mue,

For crabbed crowfoote marres hir face, and quite diffaines hir hue.

The Lover to a Gentlewoman that, after great friendship, without defart or cause of missyking, refused him.

Have you not heard it long ago of cunning fawkners tolde,

That haukes which love their keepers call are worth their weight in golde?

And fuch as knowethe luring voice of him that feedes them still,

And never rangle farre abroade against the keepers will,

Doe farre exceede the haggarde hauke that floopeth to no flale,

Nor forceth on the lure awhit, but mounts with every gale.

Yes, yes, I know you know it well, and I by proufe have tride,

That wylde and haggard hawkes are worfe than fuch as will abide.

Yet is there eke another kinde, farre worfer than the reft;

And those are they that flie at check, and stoupe to erie gest.

They leave the lawe that nature taught, and shun their woonted kinde,

In fleeing after erie foule that mounteth with the winde.

You know what I doe meane by this; if not, give eare a while,

And I shall shewe you my conceyte in plaine and simple stile.

You were fometime a gentle hawke, and woont to feede on fift,

And knew my luring voice right well, and would repaire at lift:

I could no fooner make a beck, or token with my hand,

But you would quickly judge my will, and how the case did stand.

But now you are become fo wylde, and rammage to be feene,

As though you were a haggard hawke; your maners altred cleene.

You now refuse to come to fift, you shun my woonted call,

My luring lyketh not your eare, you force me not at all.

You flee with wings of often chaunge at random where you please;

But that in time will breede in you fome fowle and fell difeafe.

Live like a haggard still, therefore, and for no luring care,

For best (I see) contents thy minde at wishe and will to fare.

So fome, perhaps, will live in hope at length to light on thee,

That earst reclaimde so gentle werte, and loving birde to mee;

But if thou chaunce to fall to check, and force on erie fowle,

Thou shalt be worse detested then, than is the nightish owle.

This counfell take of him that once did keepe thee at his beck,

But now gives up in open field, for feare of filthie check.

The Lover obtaining his wishe by all likelyhode, yet not able to attaine his desire, compares himself to Tantalus.

OF Tantalus plight The poets wright, Complayning And fayning

In forowfull founding fonges:

Who feeles (they faye)

For apples gaye

Such payning,

Not gayning

The fruite for which he longes:

For when he thinkes to feede therone, The fickle flattring tree is gone;

And all in vaine hee hopes to have, his famine to expell,

The flitting fruite that lookes fo brave and likes his eie fo well:

And thus his hunger doth increase, And hee can never finde release.

As want of meate

Doth make him freate

With raging,

And gaging,

To catch the fruite that flees:

Even fo for drythe,

The mifer erythe,

Not fwaging, But waging,

For licour that hee fees:

For to his painefull parched mouth, The long defired water flouth;

And when he gapes full greedilie, unthriftie thirst to slake,

The river wasteth speedilie, and awaywarde goes the lake; That all the licour from his lips

And dryed chaps away it flips.

This kinde of paine Doth he fustaine.

Not ceafing,

Increasing,

His pittifull pining wo:

In plenties place, Devoide of grace,

Releasing,

Or ceasing

The pangs that pinch him fo:

Of all the fretting fits of Hell This Tantals torment is most fell:

For that the reaft can have no hope their freedome to attaine,

And he hath graunted him fuch fcope as makes the myfer faine:

But all for nought in fine it ferves, For he with dryth and hunger fterves.

Even fo fare I

That am at nie

My pleafure,

My treasure,

As I might wish to bee,

And have at will My ladie ftill

At leafure,

In measure,

As well it liketh mee.

The amorous blincks flee to and fro, With fugred words that make a flow,

That fansie is well pleased withall, and findes it selfe content:

Eche other friendly friend doth call and eche of us confent;

And thus we feeme for to possesse. Eche others hart and have redresse.

We coll, we clip,

We kiffe with lip,

Delighted,

Requighted,

And merily fpend the day:

The tales I tell

Are fanside well,

Recited,

Not spited,

Thus weares the time away. Looke, what I like shee doth imbrace, Shee gives good eare unto my case,

And yeeldes mee lawfull libertie to frame my dolorus plaint,

To quite hir friend from jeopardie whome Cupid hath attaint;

Refpecting nought at all his welth, But feeking meane to worke his helth. I feeme to have

The thing I craue;

Shee barres not, Shee jarres not,

But with a verie good will

Shee heares my fute;

And for the frute

Shee warres not,

But dares not

To let me feede my fill.

Shee would (I know) with hart agree; The fault is neyther in hir nor mee,

I dare avowe full willinglie

fhee would confent thereto,

And gladly would me remedie too banish away my woo:

So thus my wish I doe possesse,

And am a Tantal naythelesse.

For though I stande

And touch with hande,

Allured,

Procured,

The faint I doe defire:

And may be bolde

For to enfolde,

Affured,

Indured,

The corps that I require;

Yet by no meanes may I attaine

To have the fruite I would fo faine

To rid me from extremitie,

and cruell oppressing care:

Even thus with Tantals penaltie my deftnie may compare;
Who though endure excessive paine,
Yet mine is not the least of twaine.

The Lover to the Thems of London, to favor his Ladie passing thereon.

THOU ftately ftreame y^t with the fwelling tide Gainft London walles inceffantly doft beate, Thou Thems (I fay) where barge and bote doth ride, And fnowhite fwans do fish for needefull meate;

When so my loue of force, or pleasure shall Flit on thy floud, as custome is to do, Seeke not with dread hir courage to appall, But calme thy tyde, and smoothly let it go, As shee may joy, arrivde to siker shore To passe the pleasant streame she did before.

To weltre up and furge in wrathfull wife, (As did the floud where Helle drenched was) Would but procure defame of thee to rife: Wherefore let all fuch ruthlesse rigor passe, So wish I that thou mayst with bending side Have powre for aye in woonted goulse to glide.

To his Ring given to his Ladie, wherein was graven this verse: My hart is yours.

THOUGH thou (my ring) be fmall, and flender be thy price,

Yet haft thou in thy compaffe coucht a lovers true device.

And though no rubie red, ne Turkesse trim thy top,

Nor other Juell that commends the golden Vulcans shop,

Yet mayft thou boldlye vaunt, and make a true report

For mee, that am thy mayster yet in such a semblant fort.

That aye (my hart is hirs) of thee I aske no more:

My pen and I will shew the reast, which yet I keepe in store.

Be mindefull of thy charge, and of thy maysters case:

Forget not that (my hart is hirs) though I be not in place.

When thou haft tolde thy tale, which is but short and sweete.

Then let my love conject the reaft, till she and I doe meete:

For as (my hart is hirs) fo shall it be for aye:

My hart, my hand, my lyfe, my limmes, are hirs till dying daye.

Yea, when the spirite gives up and bodie breathes his last.

Say, naytheleffe (my hart is hirs) when life and all is paft.

Sit fast to hir finger, But doe thou not wring her. The difpairing Lover craves eyther mercie in time at his Ladies hands, or cruell death.

LIKE as the fearefull foule within the fawcons foote Doth yeelde himselfe to die, and fees none other boote, Even fo dread I (my deare) least ruth in thee will want, To me that am thy thrall, who, fearing death, doe pant. So fast I am in gyve within your beauties gayle, As thence to make a breach no engin may prevaile. The hart within my breaft with trembling feare doth quake, And fave your love (my deare) nought can my torment flake. To flea a yeelding pray I judge it not your kinde: Your beautie bids mee hope more ruth in you to finde; Where Nature hath performde fuch featurde shape to showe, There hath she closed in breast a hart for grace to growe.

Wherefore my lingring paines redreffe with ruthfull hart,

And doe in time become physition to my smart.

Oh! showe thy felse a friende and natures impe to bee: As thou a woman art by kinde, to womans kinde agree. But if you can not finde in hart my lyfe to fave, But that you long to fee your thrall lye deade in grave, Sende mee the fatall toole and cruell cutting knife, And thou shalt see me rid my wretched limmes of life. No leffe to like thy minde than to abridge my fmart; Which were an yll rewarde for fuch a good defart. Of both I count it least by curfed death to fall, Than ruthleffe here to live.

and aye to be a thrall.

To his Friende, to be conflant after choise made.

WHAT made Ulyffes wife
to be renowmed fo?
What forced Fame hir endleffe brute
in blafting trumpe to blow?
What Cleopatra caufde
to have immortall prayfe?
What did procure Lucrecias laude
to laften to our dayes?

Cause they their plighted hestes unbroken aye refervde, And planted constance in their harts from whome they never swervde.

What makes the marble ftone and diamond fo deare?

Save that the[y] longest last of all, and alwayes one appeare?

What makes the waxen forme to be of flender price,

But cause with force of fire it melts, and wasteth with a trice?

Then, if thou long for prayle, or blafted fame to finde,

(My friend) thou must not chaunge thy choyce, or turne lyke cock with winde:

Be conftant in thy worde, and ftable in thy deede:

This is the readieft way to win and purchase prayse with speede.

Counfell returned by Pyndara to Tymetes of Constancie.

What made the Troyan duke,
that wandring prince, to have
Such yll report, and foule defame
as him Carthago gave?
What faythleffe Jafon forcde
a traytors name to gaine,
When he to Colchos came, and did
the golden Fleefe attaine?

What Thefeus caufde to bee reported of fo yll, As yet record thereof remaynes (I think) and ever wyll? Cause they their faithfull friendes, that favde their doubtfull lyves. Forfooke at laft, and did difdaine to take them to their wyves. They brake their vowed heftes; by fhip away they went, And fo betrayde those fiely foules that craft nor falfehood ment. Wherefore if you (my friend) the like report will flee, Stand ever to the promife made, and plighted troth to mee. Those dames of whome you spake were conftant (as you fay), But fure these lovers I alleadge unfaithfull parts did play. More cause have I to doubt of you (Tymetes) then, For (as you fee) we women are

The Lovers must not dispaire, though their Ladies feeme strainge.

more truftie than you men.

THOUGH Neptune in his rage the fwelling feas doe toffe,

And crack the cables in difpite, to further shipmens losse;

Though ancker holde doe fayle, and myffon go to wrack,

Though fayles with bluftring blaft be rent, and keale begin to crack;

Yet those that are a boorde, and guide the ship with steare,

Although they fee fuch daungers preft and perils to appeare,

Yet hope to light at laft upon fome harbour holde,

And finde a porte where they to cast their anckers may be bolde.

Though theeves be kept in gayle fast bound in surest gyves,

They lay not all good hope afide for faving of their lives:

They trust at length to see such mercie in the judge,

As they, in open prefence quit, may from the prifon trudge.

And those for greedie gaine, and hope of hidden golde,

In deepeft mynes and dungeon darck that byde the bitter colde,

In fine, doe looke to light upon fome golden vaine,

Which may be thought a recompence for all their paffed paine.

The ploughman eke that toyles and turnes the ground for graine,

And fowes his feede (perhaps to loffe) yet ftandes in hope of gaine:

He will not once difpaire, but hope till harveft fall,

And then will look affuredly to ftuffe his barnes withall.

Since these in perils point will never once dispaire,

Then why fhould louers ftand in dread of ftormes in weather faire?

Why should they have mistrust fome better hap to finde,

Or think that women will not chaunge, as is their woonted kinde?

Though straunge they seeme a while, and cruell for a space,

Yet fee thou hope at length by hap to finde fome better grace;

For tygers will be tame, and lyons that were woode,

In time their keepers learne to knowe and come to them for foode.

What though they fcorne as now to liften to thy fute,

Yet thou in time, when fortunes ferves, fhalt reape fome better frute.

And though thy fighes they fcorne, and mock thy welling teares,

Yet hope (I fay), for after ftormes the fhining funne appeares.

And never cease to sue, nor from lamenting stint; For often drops of falling raine in time doe pierce the flint.

Was never ftone fo ftrong, nor womans hart fo harde,

But thone with toole, and thother with teares in proceffe might be fcarde.

A Letter fent by Tymetes to his Ladie Pyndara at the time of his departure.

OF pennes I had good ftore, ne paper did I want, When I began to write to thee, but inck was fomewhat fcant; Yet Loue devifde a fetch. a friendly fleight at neede, For I with pointed penfill made my middle finger bleede: From whence the bloud, as from a cloven conduite, flue. And these fewe rude and skillesse lines with quaking quill I drue. Now, friend, I must depart, and leave this lyked lande: Now canckred hap doth force me take a new found toyle in hande. Shee spites that I should live, or leade a quiet life. Aye feeking how to breede my bale, and make my forrowes rife.

From whence I paffe I knowe, a place of pleafant bliffe,

But wither I shall I wote not well,

I know not where it is;

Where fhe by fea or lande me (cruell) will compell

To passe, or by the defart dales, were verie hard to tell.

But needes I must away, the westerne winde doth blowe

So full against my back that I of force from hence doe go:

Yet naythelesse in pawne

(O friend) I leave with you

A faithfull hart, that lafting lyfe will shewe it felfe as true,

As looving earft it hath: and if mee trust you dare,

Fill up the emptie place with yours, if you the fame may spare.

Inclose it in my breast; in fasetie shall it lie.

And thou shalt have thy hart againe, if I doe chaunce to die.

Thus dubble is your gaine, a dubble hart to have,

To purchase thee another hart, and eke thine owne to save.

Live mindefull of thy friend, forget not promife paft;

Be stoute against the stubborne strokes of frowarde Fortunes blast.

Penelope, be true
to thy Ulyffes ftill:
Let no newe chosen friend breake off

Let no newe cholen friend breake of the threed of our good will.

Though I on feas doe passe, the surge will have no powre

To quench the flame that in my breaft increafeth day and howre.

And thus (the hart that is your owne) doth wish thee well,

With good increase of blessed haps finister chaunce to quell.

Adue, my chosen friend: if Fortune say Amen,

From hence I go thine owne, and will thine owne returne agen.

Pyndaras aunswere to the Letter which Tymetes sent hir at the time of his departure.

When first thy letters came
(O loving friend) to mee,
I leapt for joy, in hope to have
receyvde good newes of thee.
I never stayde upon
those lines that were without;
But rashly ript the seale, to rid
my minde from dreadfull dout.
Which done (Oh cruell griese!)
I saw a mournefull sight:

This verse (of pennes I had good store) with purple bloud ywright.

With flouds of flowing teares ftraight drowned were mine eies;

On eyther cheeke they trickled fast,

and ranne in river wies.

My minde did yll abode, it yrkt to read the reft;

For when I faw the inck was fuch, I thought I faw the beft.

Long ftoode I in a dumpe, my hart began to ake;

My liver leapt within my bulck, my trembling hands did shake:

My fenses were bereft, my bowing knees did bende;

Out from my nofe the bloud it brake, much like the letter pende.

Up ftart my ftaring locks, I lay for dead a fpace;

And what with bloud and brine I all bedewde the dreerie place.

From out my feeble fift fell needle, cloth and all;

I knewe no wight, I faw no funne, as deafe as ftone in wall.

At laft, when ftanders by had brought my fense againe,

And force of life had conquered griefe and banisht deadly paine,

I thought the worst was past;
I deemde I could abide

No greater torment than I had, unleffe I fhould have dide.

To vewing then againe of bloudie lynes I go,

And ever as I read the words, mee thought I faw the blo

Which pointed penfell gave, from whence that dolefull inck

As from a cloven conduit flue: remembrance make me shrinck.

Oh, friend Tymetes, why fo cruell were thou than?

What didft thou meane to hurt thy flesh, thou rash and retchlesse man?

What! didft thou deeme that I could vew that gorie fcrole

Withouten anguish of the minde? or think vpon the hole

Of that thy friendly fift and finger that did bleede?

No, no; I have a womans hart, I am no tygers feede.

As great a griefe it was for me to think in hart

Of thy mishap, as if my felfe. had felt the present smart.

O cruell curfed want of fitter inck to write!

Good fayth, that lycour was unmeete fuch loving lines tindite.

But yet in fome refpect it fitted with the cafe;

For (out alas) I read therein that thou haft fled the place,

Where friendly we were woont like faithfull friends to bee;

Where thou moughtst chat with me thy fill, and I conferre with thee.

Oh fpitefull cruell chaunce! oh curfed canckred fate!

Art thou a goddeffe (monster vile) deferving stoole of state?

O blinde and muffled dame! couldft thou not fee to spare

Two faithfull harts, but reaving thone must breede the others care?

No woonder tis that thou doft frande on whirling wheele;

For by thy deedes thou dost declare thou canst doe nought but reele.

Art thou of womans kinde and ruthfull goddeffe race,

And haft no more respect unto a fielie womans case?

Avaunt, thou froward fiend! thou fo my friend doft drive

From shore well knowne to forraine coast our sugred joyes to rive.

If fo thy minde be bent that my Tymetes shall

Depart the prefence of his friend, yet fo doe guide the ball

As he at lande may live, not trying furge of feas; Nor ship him from the havens mouth to breede him more unease.

(Good friend) adventure not fo rashly on the floud,

As earft thou didft in writing of this letter with thy bloud.

Seeke not tincrease my cares, or dubble griefe begoon;

Think of Leanders bolde attempt the like diftreffe to fhoon.

What furetie is in fhip? what truft in oken plancks?

What credit doe the windes deferve, at lande that play fuch prancks?

If houses strongly built, and towers battled hie.

By force of blaft be overthrowne when Æols impes doe flie:

In puffing windes the pine and aged oke doe teare,

And from the bodies rent the boughes and loftic lugges they beare:

Then, why shouldst thou affie in keale or cable so.

Or hazard thus thy felfe upon the toffing feas to go?

Haft thou not heard of yore how good Ulyffes was

With stormic tempest chased fore when he to Greece did did passe?

A wearie travaile hee for ten yeares fpace abid,

And all the while this noble Greeke on waltring wallow flid.

Haft thou not read in bookes of fell Charybdis goulfe,

And Scyllas dogs, whome fhips doe dread as lambes doe feare the woulfe?

Nor of the raggie rocks that underlurck the wave,

And rent the barcks that Æols blafts into their bosome drave?

Not of the monsters huge that belch out frothie fleame,

And finging firens that doe drowne both man and fhip in ftreame?

Alas! the thought of feas, and of thy paffage paines

-(If once thou gage thy felfe to furge) my hart and members ftraines.

The prefent fits of feare of afterclaps to cum,

Amaze my loving tender breaft, and fenses doe benum.

But needes thou must away, (oh friend) what hap is this

That ere thou flie this friendly coast thy lips I can not kiffe:

Nor with my folded armes imbrace that neck of thine,

Nor clap unto thy manly breaft these loving dugs of mine:

Not fled my trilling teares upon thy moifted face,

Nor fay to thee (Tymet, adue) when thou departft the place.

O that I had thy forme in waxen table now,

To reprefent thy lively lookes and friendly loving brow!

That mought perhaps abridge fome part of pinching paine,

And comfort me, till better chaunce did fend thee home againe.

Both winde and wave atonce confpire to worke my wo,

Or elfe thou shouldst not so be forst from me (thine owne) to go.

O wayward westerne blast! what didst thou meane so full

Against Tymetes back to blow, and him from hence to pull?

Haft thou bene counted earft a gentle gale of winde,

And dost thou now at length bewray thy fierce and frowarde kinde?

I thought the northern blaft, from froftie pole that came,

Had bene the worst of all the windes and most deserved blame;

But now I plainely fee that poets did but faine

When they of Borias spake so yll, and of his cruell raigne:

For thou of Æols brats thy felfe the worst dost showe;

And having no just cause of rage to soone beginst to blowe.

If needes thou wouldst have usde thy force and fretting moode,

Thou fhouldst have broyld among the trees that in the mountaines stoode,

And let us friends alone that livde in perfite bliffe;

But to request the windes of ruth but labor lost it is.

Well (friend) though cruell hap and windes did both agree,

That thou on fodaine shouldst forgo both countrie coast and mee,

Yet have I founde the pawne which thou didft leave behinde:

I meane thy loving faithfull hart, that never was unkinde.

And for that firme beheft and plighted truth of youre,

Wherein you vow that love begoon fhall to the death endure,

To yeelde thee thy demaunde my written lines proteft;

Inclose my hart within thy bulck as I will thine in breft.

Shrine up that little lumpe of friendly flesh (my friend)

And I will lodge in loving wife the gueft that thou didft fend.

I joy at this exchaunge: for I affured ftande.

Thy tender hart that I doe keepe shall fafelie lie at lande.

Nor doe I doubt at all but thou wilt have regarde

Of that thy charge, and womans hart committed to thy warde.

Why doft thou write of death? I truft thou shalt not die,

As long as in thy manly breaft a womans hart doth lie:

To cruell were the case, the Sisters eake were shroes,

If they woulde feeke the death of us, that are fuch friendly foes.

But if the worft fhould fall, and that the cruell death

Doe ftop the fpindles of our life, and reave us both of breath,

Yet this doth make me joy, that thou shalt be the grave

Unto my hart, and in my breft that hart [h]is hierce shall have.

For fure a funder shall these members never go,

As long as life in lims doth lodge and breath in lungs bylow.

I mindefull live of thee, and of my promife paft;

I will not feeke to chaunge my choife, my love is fixed faft.

To my Tymetes I as faithfull will be found,

As to Ulysses was his wife, whilft Troie was laide on ground.

As for new choife of friends, prefume upon thy P.

Thou knowst I have thy hart in breast, and it will none but thee.

Abandon all diftruft, and dread of miftie minde;

For to the hart (that is mine owne)

I will not be unkinde.

Adue, my chosen friend, Adue to thee agen;

Remaine my love, but pray the write no more with bloudie pen.

Thine owne in life, thine owne in death,
Thine owne whilft lungs shall lende me breath;
Thine owne whilft I on earth doe wonne,
Thine owne whilft I shall see the sonne.

To his absent Friend the Lover writes of his unquiet and restlesse state.

Though curious skill I want to wel endite,
And I of facred Nymphs and Muses nine
Was never taught wt poets pen to write,
Nor barrain braine to learning did incline
To purchase prayse, or with the best to shine,
Yet cause my friend shall sinde no want of will
I write: let hir accuse the lack of skill.
No lesse deserves the lambe to be imbrast

Of lowring Jove at facred altar flaine,
If with good zeale it offred be at laft
By Irus, than doe Cræfus bullocks twaine:
For no refpect is to be had of gaine
In fuch affayres; but to the givers hart,
And his good will, our fenfes muft convart.

Wherfore to thee (my friend) these lines I fend As perfite prouse of no diffembling minde, But of a hart that truely doth intend To shew it selfe as loving and as kinde, As woman woulde hir lover wish to finde: And more than this my paper can declare; I love thee (friend) and wish thee well to fare.

I would thou wift the torment I fuftaine
For lack of hir that fhould my wo redreffe,
And that you knew fome parcell of my paine,
Which none may well by deeming judgement geffe,
Nor I with quill have cunning to expreffe:
I know thou couldft but rue my wofull chaunce,
That by thy meanes was brought into this traunce.

The day doth breede my doole, and ranckling rage Of fecret fmart in wounded breaft doth boyle; No pleafant pangue my forrowes may affwage, Nor give an ende unto my wofull toyle: The golden Sunne that glads the earthly foyle, And erie other thing that breedes delight Of kinde, to mee are forgers of my fpite.

I long for Phœbus glade and going downe, My drearie teares more covertly to fhed; But when the night with uglie face doth frowne, And that I am yplaste in quiet bcd, In hope to be with wifhed pleasure fed, A greater griefe, a worser paine ensues. My vaporde eies their hoped sleepe resues.

Then rowle I in my deepe difpayring breft
The fweete difdaines, and pleafant anger paft,
The lovely ftrifes: when ftars doe counfell reft
Incroaching cares renue my griefe as fafte,
And thus defired night in wo I wafte;
And to expresse the harts excessive paine,
Mine eies their deawie teares distill amaine.

And reason why they should be moysted so Is, for they bred my hart this bitter bale; They were the onely cause of cruell wo Unto the hart, they were the guilefull stale. Thus day and night, ytost with churlish gale Of sighes in sea of surging brine, I bide, Not knowing how to scape the scowring tide.

At laft the shining rayes of hope to finde Your friendship firme, these cloudy thoughts repels, And calmed skie returnes to mistie minde, Which deepe dispaire againe estsoone compels Too sade, and ease by dolours drift expels: That gods themselves (I judge) lament my sate, And doe repine to see my wofull state.

Wherefore to purchase prayse, and glorie gaine, Do ease your friend that lives in wretched plight, Doe not to death a loving hart constraine, But seeke with love his service to requight, Doe not exchaunge a sawcon for a kite:

Refuse him not for any friendship nue,
A worse may chaunce, but none more just and true.

Let Creffed myrror bee, that did forgo
Hir former faythfull friend, King Priams fonne,
And Diomed the Greeke imbraced fo,
And left the love fo well that was begonne:
But when hir cards were tolde and twift yfponne,
She found hir Trojan friend the beft of both,
For he renounft hir not, but kept his oth.

This don, my griping griefs will fomwhat fwage,
And forrow ceafe to grow in penfive breaft,
Which otherwife will never blin to rage,
And crush the hart within his carefull cheaft.
Of both for you and mee it were the best,
To fave my life and win immortall fame,
And thus my muse shall blase your noble name
For ruine on my wofull case.

The aunswere of a woman to hir Lover, supposing his complaint to be but fayned.

You want no fkill to paint
or fhew your pangues with pen:
It is a worlde to fee the craft
that is in fubtile men!
You feeme to write of woes
and wayle for deadly fmart,
As though there were no griefe but that
which gripes your faythleffe hart.
Though we but women are,
and weake by lawe of kinde,
Yet well we can difcerne a friende:
we winke, but are not blinde.

Not every thing that gives a gleame and glittering showe,

Is to be counted gold in deede; this proverb well you knowe:

Nor every man that beares a faire and fawning cheere,

Is to be taken for a friend, or chosen for a feere:

Not everie teare declares the troubles of the hart;

For fome doe weepe that feele no wo, fome crie that tafte no fmart.

The more you feeme to me in wofull wife to playne,

The fooner I perfwade my felfe that you doe nought but fayne.

The crocodile by kinde a floud of teares doth flied,

Yet hath no cause of cruell crie; by crast this fiend is led:

For when the fiely foule, that ment no hurt at all.

Approcheth neere, the flipper ground doth give the beaft a fall,

Which is no fooner done, but straight the monster vyle,

For forrow that did weepe fo fore, for joy beginnes to fmyle.

Even fo you men are woont by fraude your friends to traine,

And make in wife you could not fleepe in carefull couch for paine:

When you in deede doe nought but take your nightly nap, Or having flept, doe fet your fnare

and tylle your guilefull trap.

Your braynes as busie bee in thinking how to snare

Us women, as your pillowes foft and bowlfters pleafant are.

As for your dayes delights, our felves can witneffe well

To fundrie women fundrie tales of fundrie jeftes you tell:

And all to win their loves, which when you doe attaine,

Within a while you fliew your kindes, and give them up in plaine.

A fawcon is full hard amongft you men to finde,

For all your maners more agree unto the kytish kinde;

For gentle is the one, and loves his keepers hande,

But thother bufferdlike doth fcorne on fawckners fift to ftande.

For one good turne the one a thousand will requite;

But use the other nere so well, he shewth himselfe a kite.

If Cresyd did amiffe the Troian to forfake,

Then Dyomedes did not well that did the ladie take.

Was never woman falfe,
but man as falfe as fhee,
And commonly the men doe make
that women flipper bee.
Wherefore leave off your plaints,
and take the fheete of fhame

To fhrow your cloking harts from colde, and fayning browns from blame.

Yf the that reades this rime

be wife as I could wifhe,
She will avoyde the bayted hooke
that takes the biting fifhe;

And shoon the lymed twig, the flying foule that tyes:

Tis good to feare of erie bush where threed of thraldome lyes.

The Lover exhorteth his Ladie to take time, while time is.

THOUGH brave your beautie be, and feature passing faire, Such as Apelles to depaint might utterly dispaire,

Yet drowfie drouping age, incroching on apace,

With penfive plough will raze your hue and beauties beames deface.

Wherefore in tender yeares
how crooked age doth hafte
Revoke to minde, fo fhall you not
your minde confume in wafte.

Whilft that you may, and youth in you is fresh and greene,
Delight your selfe; for yeares to fit

as fickle clouds are feene.

For water flipped by may not be callde againe,

And to revoke forepassed howres were labour lost in vaine:

Take time whilft time applies; with nimble foote it goes,

Nor to compare with paffed prime thy after age fuppoes.

The holtes that now are hoare, both bud and bloume I fawe:

I ware a garlande of the bryer that puts me now in awe.

The time will be, when thou that doft thy friends defie,

A colde and crooked beldam shalt in lothsome cabbin lie:

Nor with fuch nightlie brawles – thy posterne gate shall founde,

Nor rofes ftrawde afront thy dore in dawning shall be founde.

How foone are corpfes (Lorde) with filthie furrowes fild!
How quickly beautie, brave of late,

and feemely shape, is spild!
Even thou that from thy youth

Even thou that from thy youth to have bene fo, wilt fweare,

With turne of hand in all thy head fhalt have graye powdred heare.

The fnakes with shifted skinnes
their lothsome age dooway;
The buck doth hang [h]is head on pale
to live a longer day.
Your good without recure
doth passe, receive the flowre:
Which, if you pluck not from the stalke,
will fall within this howre.

The Lover wisheth to be conjoyned and fast linckt with his Ladie, never to funder.

I READE how Salmacis fometime with fight On fodaine loovde Cyllenus fonne, and fought Forthwith with all hir powre and forced might Too bring to paffe hir close conceyved thought: Whome, as by hap she saw in open mead, She sude unto, in hope to have bene spead.

With fugred words fhe wood, & fparde no fpeach, But bourded him with many a pleafant tale, Requesting him of ruth to be hir leach, For whome she had abid such bitter bale; But hee, repleate with pride and scornefull cheare, Disdainde hir earnest sute and songs to heare.

Away shee went, a wofull wretched wight, And shrowded hir not farre from thence a space: When that at length the stripling saw in sight No creature there, but all were out of place, Hee shifts his robes and to the river ran, And there to bath him bare the boy began. The nymph in hope as then to have attainde
Hir long defired love, retirde to flood,
And in hir armes the naked noorie ftrainde:
Whereat the boy began to ftrive a good,
But ftrugling nought availed in that plight,
For why, the nymph furpast the boy in might.

O Gods! (quoth tho the girle) this gift I crave,
This boy and I may never part againe,
But so our corpses may conjoyned have
As one we may appeare, not bodies twaine.
The gods agreed, the water so it wrought,
As both were one: thy selfe would so have thought.

As from a tree we fundrie times espie
A twiffell grow by Natures subtile might;
And being two, for cause they grow so nie,
For one are tane, and so appeare in sight.
So was the nymph and noorie joynde yfere,
As two no more, but one selfe thing they were.

O ladie mine! howe might we feeme ybeft; How friendly mought we gods account to bee, In femblant fort if they woulde breede my reft By lincking of my carkaffe unto thee! So that we might no more a funder go, But limmes to limmes, & corfe to carkaffe grow.

O! where is now become that bleffed lake
Wherein those two did bath to both their joy?
How might we doe, or such provision make
To have the hap as had the maiden boy?
To alter forme and shape of either kinde,
And yet in prouse of both a share to finde?
Then should our limmes wt lovely linck be tide.

And harts of hate no taste sustaine at all, But both for aye in perfite league abide, 'And eche to other live as friendly thrall: That thone might seele the pangues the other had, And partner be of ought that made him glad.

O bleffed nymph! O Salmacys! I faye, Would thy good luck unto hir lot would light, Whome I imbrace, and loven shall for aye, By force of flood to chaunge hir nature quight: And that I might have hap, as had the boy, To never part from hir that is my joy.

I would not strive, I would not stirre awhit, (As did Cyllenus sonne, that stately wight); But well content to be hermaphrodit, Would cling as close to thee as ere I might, And laugh to thinke my hap so good to bee, As in such fort saft to be linckt with thee.

The Lover, hoping affuredly of attaining his purpose after long sute, begins to joy renouncing dolors.

BE farre from mee, you wofull woonted cries, Adue, difpaire, that madfte my hart agries: Ye fobbing fighes farewel, and penfive plaint, Refigne your roomes to joy, ye long reftraint Without defart endurde.

Reject those ruthfull rymes y^u (quaking quill)
Which both declarde my wo and want of skill:
(Mine eies) that long have had my love in chase,
With teares no more imbrue your mystresse face,
But to your springs retyre.

And thou (my hart) that long for lack of grace Forepinde haft bene and in a doolefull cafe, Lament no more; let all fuch gripings go As bred thy bale, and nurft thy cankred wo

With milke of mournefull dug.
To Venus doe your due (you fenses all)
And to hir fonne to whome you are in thrall:
To Cupid bend thy knce, and thankes repay
That after lingred fute, and long delay,

Hath brought thy ship to shore. Let crabbed fortune now expresse hir might, And doe thy worst to me, thou stinging spite; My hart is well defens against your sorce, For she hath vowde on mee to have remorce

Whome I have loovde fo long.

Henceforth exchaunge thy cheere, and wofull voice
That haft yfounde fuch matter to rejoice:
With mirrie quill, and pen of pleafant plight,
Thy blisfull haps and fortune to endight,
Enforce thy barraine fkull.

The Lover to his carefull bed, declaring his restlesse state.

Thou that wert earst a restfull place dost now renue my smart,

And woonted eake to salve my fore that now increasest wo,

Unto my carefull corse an ease, a torment to my hart,

Once quieter of minde perdie, now an unquiet so:

The place fometime of flumbring fleepe wherein I may but wake,

Drenched in sea of faltish brine, (O bed) I thee forfake.

No ife of Apenynus top my flaming fire may quent,

Ne heate of brightest Phœbus beames may bate my chillie colde:

Nought is of ftately ftrength ynough my forrowes to relent,

But (fuch is hap) renewed cares are added to the olde:

Such furious fits and fonde affects in mee my fanfies make,

That bathed all in trickling teares, (O bed) I thee forfake.

The dreames that daunt my dazed hed are pleafant for a space:

Whilft yet I lie in flumbring fleepe my carkaffe feeles no wo,

For cause I seeme with clasped armes my lover to imbrace;

But when I wake and finde away that did delight me fo,

Then in comes care to pleafures place, that makes my limmes to quake;

That all beforent with brackish bryne, (O bed) I thee forsake.

No fooner flirres Auroras flarre, the lightest lampe of all,

But they that roufted were in reft, not fraught with fearefull dreames,

Do pack apace to labours left, and to their taske doe fall: When I, awaking all inragde, doe baine my breast with streames, And make my smokie sighes to skies

their upwarde way to take:

Thus with a furge of teares bedewde, (O bed) I thee forfake.

Thus hurlde from hungrie hope by hap I die, yet am alive:

From pangues of plaint to fits of fume my reftlesse minde doth runne,

With rage and fanfie reason fights, they altogither strive:

Refiftaunce vayleth naught at all, for I am quickly wunne.

Thus feeking reft no ruth I finde that gladfome joy may make,

Wherefore, confumde with flowing teares (O bed) I thee forfake.

An Epitaph and wofull verfe of the death of Sir John Tregonwell, Knight, and learned Doctor of both Lawes.

And can you cease from plaint, or keepe your conduits drie?
May saltish brine within your breasts in such a tempest lie?
Where are your scalding sighes, the sittest soode of paine?

And where are now thy welling teares, I aske thee once againe?

Hast thou not heard of late the losse that hath befell?

If not, my felfe (unhappie wight) will now begin to tell:

(Though griefe perhaps will grutch, and ftay my foltring tongue)

From whence this ragged roote of ruth and mourning moode is fprong.

Was dwelling in this fheere a man of worthie fame,

A justicer for his defart, Tregonwell was his name:

A doctor at the lawes,

A knight among the mo;

A Cato for good counfell callde, as he in yeares did grow:

A patrone to the poore, a rampire to the reft;

As leefe unto the simple forte, as friendly to the best.

No blinde affect his eie in judgement blearde at all,

Whose rightous verdit and decree was quite devoyde of gall.

If he in hatefull hartes

(where roote of rancour grew)

Of faythfull friendship seedes might fow, no paines he would eschew.

Minerva thought of like, and Nature did confent To prove in him by fkilfull arte what eyther could invent.

A plot of fuch a price was never framde before;

To flow their powre the heavens had Tregonwell kept in ftore.

The prince did him imbrace, and fought him to advaunce,

And better former state of birth by furthering of his chaunce:

He still was readie bent his fervice to bestowe,

Thereby unto his native foyle if gratefull gaine might growe.

If fage advise were fcarce, and wholesome counfell fcant,

Then should you fee Tregonwels helpe, ne wisedome would not want.

When Legats came from farre (as is their woonted guife)

To treate of truce, or talke of warre, as matters did arife,

Tregonwell then was callde his verdit to expresse,

Who for the most part in the case of fruitfull things could gesse.

Or if himfelfe were fent

(which hap Tregonwell had)

Into a farre and forraine lande, then was Tregonwell glad;

For fo he might procure wealepublick by his paine:

It was no corfie to this knight long travaile to fuftaine.

But what? undaunted death that feekes to conquer all,

And Atropos that goddesse sterne at length have spit their gall,

And reft us fuch a one as was a Phœnix true,

Save that now of his cindrie corfe there rifeth not a nue.

Where may you fee his match? where shall you find his leeke?

None, though you from the farthest east unto the ocean seeke.

O house without thy head!
O ship without a steare!

Thy Palynurus now is dead, as fhortly will appeare.

In daunger of diftreffe this knight was ever woont

To yeelde himfelfe to perils preft, and bide the greatest broont.

No tumults tempeft could fubdue his conftant hart,

Ne would the man by any meanes once from his countrie ftart.

But (oh) it naught availes, for death doth ftrike the ftroke

In things humaine; no worldly wealth

his friendship may provoke.

Let Trojans now leave off by mourning to lament

The loffe of Priam and his towne, when ten yeares warre was fpent.

Yee Romaines lay your hoods and black attire away:

Bewaile no more your Fabians fall, nor that finifter day

That reft a noble race which might have florisht long;

For neither loffe is like to this our not deferved wrong.

Now Cornewall thou mayft crake, and Dorfet thou mayft crie,

For thone hath bred, and thother loft Tregonwell fodainelie.

Whose corps, though earthed bee in lothsome lumps of foyle,

His peereleffe prayfe by vertue woon fhall never feare the foyle.

Who fo therefore shalt fee this marble where he lies,

Wish that Tregonwels soule may finde a place above the skies.

And reach a rowme of reft appointed for the nones;

For in this tombe interred is but flesh and bared bones.

The Lover confesseth himselfe to be in love, and enamored of Mistresse P.

IF banisht fleepe, and watchfull care, If minde affright with dreadfull dreames, If torments rife, and pleasure rare, If face besmearde with often streames; If chaunge of cheare from joy to smart, If altred hue from pale to red, If soltring tongue with trembling hart, If solding sighes with surie sed; If sodaine hope by seare opprest, If seare by hope supprest againe, Be prooves that love within the brest Hath bound the hart with sansies chaine:

Then I of force no longer may In covert keepe my pierfing flame, Which ever doth it felfe bewray, But yeelde my felfe to fanfies frame. And now in fine to be a thrall To hir that hath my hart in gyve, Shee may enforce me rife or fall, Till death my limmes of life deprive. P. with hir beautie hath bereft My freedome from my thralled minde, And with hir loving lookes ycleft My reason through both barke and rinde; Yet well therewith I am content In minde to take it paciently, Since, fure I am, fhe will relent, And not enforce hir friende to die.

So I in recompence may have Naught but a faithfull hart againe; Then other friendship will I crave, But think my loue ylent to gaine. That all things have release of paine save the Lover, that hoping and dreading never taketh ease.

WHAT fo the golden funne beholdes with blazing light, When paine is paft, hath time to take

his comfort and delight.

The oxe with lumpish pace and leasure that doth drawe,

Hath respite, after toyle is past, a to fill his emptie mawe.

The lolearde affe that beares the burden on his back,

His dutie done, to ftable plods, and reacheth to the rack.

The deere hath woonted foyle his fervent heate to fwage:

When woorke hath ende, to respite runnes the peasant and the page.

The owle that hates the day, and loves to flee by night,

Hath queachie bushes to defende him from Apollos fight.

Eche cunnie hath a cave, eche little foule a neft

To shrowde them in at needefull times to take their needefull rest.

Thus vewing course of kinde, it is not on the grounde,

That at fome time doth not refort where is his comfort founde.

Save me (O curfed man)

whome neither funne ne shade

Doth ferve the burthen of my breaft and forrowes to unlade.

Eche fport procures my fmart, eche feemely fight annoy;

Eche pleafant tune torments mine eafe, and reaves my hoped joy.

No mufick foundes fo fweete as doth the doolefull drum.

For fomewhat neare unto my fmart that mournefull founde doth cum.

A gally flave I feeme unto my felfe to bee:

The mayster that doth guide the ship hath neare an eie to see.

You know where fuch a one as Cupid is doth fteare:

Amid the goulfe of deepe difpaire great perill must appeare.

In fleade of ftreaming fayles, hee wifshes hanges aloft,

Which if in tempest chaunce to teare, the barck will come to nought.

For winde are fealding fighes, and fecret fobbings preft,

Mixt with a cloude of ftormie teares to baine the lovers breft.

Though Cupid neare fo well his beaten barck doe guie,

By fleeing flats and finking fandes that in the wallow lie, Yet those that are a boorde
must ever stande in awe,
For cause a bussard is their guide,
not forcing any flawe;
That followes none advice,
but bluntly runnes on hed,
As proude as peacock over those
that in his chaine ar led.
Thus may you plainely see
that eche thing hath release
Of pensive paine, save Cupids thralls,
whose torments aye increase.

A poore Ploughman to a Gentleman for whome he had taken a little paines.

YOUR culter cuts the foyle that earft was fowne, Your harveft was forereaped long agoe, Your fickle sheares the medowe yt was mowne, Ere you the toyle of tilmans trade did knowe: Good fayth you are beholding to the man That fo for you your husbandrie began.

He craves of you no filver for his feede, Ne doth demaunde a penny for his graine; But if you ftande at any time in neede, (Good maifter) be as bolde with him againe. You can not doe a greater pleafure than To choofe you fuch a one to be your man.

To his Friende P: of Courting, Travailing, Dyfing, and Tenys.

To live in Court among the crue is care, Is nothing there but dayly diligence; Nor cap nor knee, nor money must thou spare, The prince his haule is place of great expence.

In rotten ribbed barck to passe the seas, The forraine landes and straungie sites to see, Doth daunger dwell: the passage breedes unease, Not safe the soyle, the men unstriendly bee.

Admit thou fee the ftraungest things of all, When eie is turnde the pleasant fight is gone: The treasure then of travaile is but small, Wherefore (friende P.) let all such toyes alone.

To fhake the bones, and cog the craftie dice, To carde in care of fodaine loffe of pence, Unfeemely is, and taken for a vice: Unlawfull play can have no good pretence.

Too band the ball doth cause y^e coine to wast, It melts as butter doth against the sunne; Naught save thy paine, when play doth cease, y^u hast: Too studie then is best when all is donne; For studie stayes and brings a pleasant gaine, When play doth passe as glare w^t gushing raine.

The Lover declares that unleffe he utter his forrowes by fute, of force he dyeth.

LYKE as the gunne that hath to great a charge, And pellet to the powder ramde fo fore, As neyther of both hath powre to go at large, Till shiverd slawes in founding skies doe rore:

Even fo my carefull breaft, that fraughted is With Cupids ware, and cloide with lurcking love, Unleffe I shoulde disclose my drerines, And out of hande my troubled thoughts remove,

A funder woulde my cumbred carcaffe flee: The hart would breake the overcharged chace Of penfive breaft; and you (my love) should fee Your faythfull friende in lamentable case.

Wherefore doe what you may in gentle wycs The gunner to affift in time of neede, And when you fee the pellet pierce the fkyes, And powder make a proufe of hidden gleede:

Rue on his case, and feeke to quite his wo, Least in short time his gunne to peeces go.

The Lover to a Friende that wrote him this fentence:

Yours affured to the death.

O FAITHFULL friend! thrife happy was the fift In fo few words to fuch effect that wrought: O friendly hart! a thousand folde yblift That hath conceivde so just and joyfull thought, As not till death from pawned love to bende, But friend at first, and frind to be at ende. Wherefore to countervaile those woords of thine, And quit thy love with faithfull hart againe, I vow that I will never once decline A foote from that I am for losse or gaine: If thou be mine till death, I the[e] assure To be thy friend as long as life shall dure.

Of certaine flowers, fent him by his Love upon suspicion of chaunge.

Your flowers for their hue
were fresh and faire to see,
Yet was your meaning not so true
as you it thought to bee.
In that you sent me have

In that you fent me bame,

I judge you ment thereby,
That cleane extinct was all my flame
from whence no fparckes did flie.

Your fenell did declare
(as fimple men can fhow)
That flattrie in my breaft I bare,

where friendship ought to grow.

A dayfie doth expresse great follie to remaine:

I fpeake it not by roate or geffe, your meaning was fo plaine.

Rofemarie put in minde that bayes weare out of thought;

And Loveinydle came behinde for love that long was fought.

Your cowflips did portende
that care was layde away;
And eglantyne did make an ende
where fweete with fower lay;
As though the leaves at furst
were fweete when love began,
But now in proofe the pricks were curst,
and hurtfull to the man.

The Aunswere to the same.

PERDIE I neede no bame. ne forced heate by charme, To fet my burning breaft in flame whom Cupids gleames do warme. On bayes is my delight, Remembrance is not past; Though daysie hit the nayle aright, my friendship aye shall last. Though love in ydle bee, yet will I not forgoe, Ne cast off care as you shall see, and time the trouth shall showe. So I may tafte the fweete. I force not on the fowre: The more is joy when friends doe meete, that Fortune earft did lowre. Your fenell failed quight where fuch good fayth is ment; For bayes are onely my delight, though I for bayes be shent.

Of a Foxe that woulde cate no Grapes.

By fortune came a foxe,
where grue a loftie vine:

I will no grapes (quoth hee)
this yarde is none of mine.

The foxe woulde none, bicause that hee
Perceivde the highnesse of the tree.
So men that foxlie are,
and long their lust to have,
But cannot come thereby,
make wise they would not crave.
Those subtill marchants will no wine,
Bicause they cannot reach the vine.

Of the straunge countenaunce of an aged Gentlewoman.

It makes me laugh a good to fee thee lowre, and long to looken fad;

For when thy crabbed countenance is fo fowre, thou art fo feeming glad.

I blame not thee but nature in his cafe,

That might beftowde on thee a better grace.

To the Roving Pyrat.

THOU winfte thy wealth by warre, ungodly way to gaine;
And in a houre thy ship is funck, goods drownde, the pirat slaine.

The gunne is all thy truft; it ferves thy cruell fo: Then brag not on thy canon shot, As though there were no mo.

Of one that had little Wit.

I thee advife,
If thou be wife,
To keepe thy wit,
Though it be fmall:

Tis rare to get,
And farre to fet:
Twas ever yit,
Dearfte ware of all.

In commendation of Wit.

WIT farre exceedeth wealth, Wit princely pompe excels, Wit better is than beauties beames, Where pride and daunger dwels. Wit matcheth kingly crowne, Wit maisters witlesse rage; Wit rules the fonde affects of youth, Wit guides the fteps of age. Wit wants no reasons skill a faithfull friend to know: Wit wotes full well the way to voide the fmooth and fleering fo. Wit knowes what best becommes, and what unfeemely showes: Wit hath a wile to ware the worft. Wit all good fashion knowes.

Since wit by wifedome can doe this, and all the reft,

That I imploy my painefull head to come by wit is beft:

Whome if I might attaine, then wit and I were one;

But till time wit and I doe cope,

I shall be post alone.

An Aunswere in dispraise of Wit.

THE wit you fo commend
with wealth cannot compare;
For wealth is able wit to win,
when wit is waxen bare.
Wit hath no beauties beames;
to kingly crowne it yeeldes:
Wit fubject is to wilfull rage,

Rage wit and reason weeldes. Wit rules not witlesse youth, nor aged steps doth guide;

Wit knowes not how to win a friende, wit is fo full of pride.

Wit wots not how to flie the fmooth and flattering geft:

Wit cannot well difcerne the thing that doth become it beft.

Wit hath no wyle to ware mishap before it fall;

Wit knowes not what good fashion meanes, Wit can doe naught at all.

Since wit by wifdome can
doe nothing, as you weene,
If you doe toyle to come by wit,
then are you over-feene:
Whome when you doe attaine,
though wit and you feeme one,
Yet wit will to another, when
your back is turnde and gone.

The Lover to Cupid for mercie, declaring how first he became his thrall, with the occasion of his defiyng

Love; and now at last what cansed him to convert.

O MIGHTIE lorde of love! Dame Venus onely joy, Whose princely powre doth farre furmount all other heavenly roy, I that have fwarvde thy lawes, and wandred farre aftray, Have now retyrde to thee againe, thy statutes to obey: And fo thou wouldst vouchfafe to let me plead for grace, I would before thy barre declare a fielie lover's cafe. I would depaint at full how first I was thy man, And show to that what was the cause that I from Cupid ran.

And how I have fince that yfpent my weerie time,

As I shall tell, so thou shalt here declarde in doolefull rime.

In greene and tender age

(my Lorde), till xviii years, I fpent my time as fitted youth

in schole among my feeares,

As then no bearde at all

was growne upon my chin,

Which well approved that mans effate I was not entred in.

I neede not tell the names of Authors which I read,

Of proes and verfe we had inough to fine the dulleft head:

But I was chiefly bent

to poets famous art;
To them with all my devor I

my studie did convert. Where when I had with joy

Where when I had with joy yfpent my time a while,

The reaft refused, I gave me whole to Nasos noble stile.

Whose volumes when I saw with pleasant stories fright,

In him (I fay) above the reft I laide my whole delight.

What should I here reherfe with base and barraine pen,

The lincked tales and filed ftuffe that I perufed then?

In fine, it was my loare
upon that part to light
Wherein he teacheth youth to love,

Wherein he teacheth youth to love, and women win by flight:

Which Treatife when I had with judging eie furvayde,

At laft I found thy godly kynde, and Princely powre difplayde.

Of Cupid all that booke and of his raigne did ring,

The poet there of Venus did in fugred dittie fing.

There read I of thy fhafts, and of thy golden bow,

Thy fhafts which by their divers heads their divers kindes did fhow.

I faw how by thy force thou madeft men to ftoope,

And grifely gods by fecret flight and deuilish imps to droope.

There were depainted plaine thy quick and quiver wings;

And what fo elfe doth touch thy powre there Ovid fweetely fings.

There I thy conquests fawe, and many a noble spoile,

With names annexed to the fame of fuch as had the foile.

There matrones marcht along and maydens in their roe.

Both Faunes and Satyrs there I faw, with Neptuns troupe alfo.

With other thousands else, which Naso there doth write;

But not my pen or barraine fkull is able to recite.

O mighty Prince (quoth I) of fuch a fearefull force,

How bleft were I, fo thou of mee wouldft daine to take remorce!

And choose me for thy thrall among the rest to bee,

That live in hope, and ferve in truft as waged men to thee.

With that (thy Godhead knowes) thou gavíte a freindly looke,

And (though unworthie fuch a place) mee to thy fervice tooke.

In token I was thine,

I had a badge of blue,

With fabels fet, and charge withall that I should aye be true.

Thou badfte me follow Hope, who tho thy enfigne bare.

And fo I might not doe amisse, thus didst thy felse declare.

Then who rejoyft but I? who thought himfelfe yblift?

That was in Cupids fervice plafte as bravely as the beft?

And thus in luftie youth

I grue to be your thrall,

And was (I witneffe of thy dame) right well content withall.

But now I minde to shewe
(as promisse was to doe)
How first I sled thy tents, and why

thy campe I did forgoe.

When I had bene retainde well nigh a yeare or more,

And fervde in place of wage and meede as in the souldiars lore,

I chaunft by hap to caft my floting eies awrie,

And fo a dame of passing shape my fortune was to spie:

On whome Dame Nature thought such beautie to bestowe,

As the had never framde before, as proufe did plainely thowe.

On hir I gazde a while, till use of sense was fled,

And, colour, paper white before, was woxen fearlet red.

I felt the kindled fparkes to flashing flames to growe;

And fo on fodaine I did love the wight I did not knowe.

Then to thy pallace I with frowarde foote did run,

And what I faide, I mynde it yet, for thus my tale begun.

O noble Sir (quoth I), is this your free affent,

I should purfue a game unknowne within your ftately tent?

If so (quoth I) thou wilt, and givfte the same in charge,

I mynde of all my brydled luft to let the raynes at large.

Then (Hope) did prick mee forth, and bad mee be of cheere.

Who faid I should within a while subdue my noble feere.

He counfelde mee to shun no dreadfull daungers place,

But follow him who banner bore unto your noble grace.

He would maintaine my right and further aye my caufe,

And bannish all dispaire that grewe by frowarde fortunes flawes.

Tis Cupids will (quoth hee), our maifter and our lorde,

That thou with manly hart and hand fhouldft lay the barck aborde:

She shall not choose but yeelde the fruite for passed paines;

For fhee is one of Cupids thralls, and bound in Venus chaines.

Thinkst thou our maister will his fervant live in woe?

No, not for all his golden darts, ne yet his crooked bowe.

Wherefore with luckie mart give charge unto the wight:

Take speare in hande, and targe on arme, and doe with courage fight.

With that, I armde me well, as fits a warring man,

And to the place of friendly fight with luftie foote I ran.

My foe was there before I came unto the fielde:

I thought Bellona had bene there, or Pallas with hir shielde.

So well fhee was befet with plate and privie maile,

As for my life my limber launce might not a whit prevaile:

Yet naytheleffe with fpeare and fhielde, we fought a fpace,

But last of all we tooke our bowes and arrowes from the case.

Then dartes we gan to fling in wide and weightleffe fkies;

And then the fiercest fight of all and combat did arise.

In ftead of fhivering fhafts, light loving lookes we caft,

And there I founde my felfe too weake, hir arrowes went fo faft:

But one above the reaft did cleave my breaft fo farre,

As downe it went where lay my hart, and there it gave a jarre.

So cruell was the ftroke, fo fodaine eke the wounde,

As by the fearefull force I fell into a fenfeleffe founde.

Thus, having no refuge
to quite my felfe from death,
I made a vowe to love hir well

whilft lungs should lende me breath:

And fince that time I have endevorde with my might

To win hir love, but nought prevailes; fhee wayes it not a mite.

Shee fkornes my yeelding hart, not forcing on my heft;

But by difdaine of cloudy browe doth further my unreft.

Yet ruthleffe though fhee were, and farfed full of yre,

I loovde hir well as hart could think, or woman might defire.

I fought to frame my fpeach and countnance in fuch fort,

As fhee my covert hart might fee by fhewe of outwarde port.

To Troilus halfe fo true unto his Crefide was

As I to hir, who for hir face did Trojane Crefide paffe.

At length, when Reafon faw me fotted fo in love,

As I ne would, ne might at all my fansie thence remove,

Shee caufde hir trumpe be blowne to cyte hir fervants all

Into the place, by whose advise I might be rid from thrall.

Then Plato first appearde with fage and folemne sawes,

And in his hand a golden booke of good and Greekish lawes,

Whose honnie mouth such wise and weightie wordes did tell

Gainst thee and all thy troupe at once, As Reason likte it well.

When Platoes tale was done, then Tullie prest in place,

Whose filed tongue with sugred talke would good a simple case.

With open mouth I heard, and jawes yftrecht awyde,

How he gainft Venus dearlings all and Cupids captives cryde.

Then Plutarch gan to preach, and by examples prove

That thousand mischiefes were procurde by meane of guilefull love;

Whole cities brought to fpoyle, and realmes to fhamefull fack,

Where kings and rulers good advice by meane of love did lack.

Next Plutarch Senec came, fevere in all his fawes,

Who cleane defide your wanton tricks, and fcornde your childish lawes.

I neede not name the reaft that floode as then in place,

But thousandes more there were that fought your godhead to deface.

When all the hall was husht, and fages all had donne,

Then Reason that in judgement sate hir skilfull talke begonne.

Gramercie, friends, (quoth fhee) your counfell lykes me well,

But now lend eare to Reafons wordes, and liften what I tell.

What madneffe may be more than fuch a lorde to have,

Who makes the chieftaine of his bande a ruke and rafkall flave?

Who woonted is to yeelde in recompence of paine,

A ragged recompence, God wote, that turnes to meere difdaine.

Who gladly would enfue a conduct that is blinde,

Or thrall himselfe to such a one as shewes himselfe unkinde?

What ploughman would be glad to fowe his feede for gaine,

And reape, when harvest time comes on, but travaile for his paine?

What madman might endure to watch and warde for nought,

To ride, to runne, and laft to loofe the recompence he fought?

To wafte the day in wo, and reftleffe night in care,

And have in ftead of better foode but fobbing for his fare?

To bleare his eies with brine and falted teares yfhead,
To force his fainting flesh to fade,

To force his fainting flesh to sade, his colour pale and dead?

And to foredoe with carke his wretched witherde hart,

And fo to breede his bitter bale and hatch his deadly fmart?

I fpeake it to this fine, that plainely might appere,

Cupidos craft and guilefull guife to him that ftandeth here;

Whose eies with fansies mist and errors cloudes are dim,

By meane that hee in Venus lake and Cupids goulfe doth fwim;

And hath, by fodaine fight of unacquainted fhape,

So fixt his hart, as hope is past for ever to escape,

Unleffe to thefe my wordes a liftning eare hee lende,

Which oft art woont the lovers minde and fanfie to offende.

But he that would his health fowre firops muft affay;

For erie griefe hath cure againe by cleane repugnaunt way:

And who fo mindes to quite and rid himfelfe from wo,

Must seeke in time for to remove the thing that hurtes him so. For longer than it laftes it frets the farder in.

Untill it grow to cureleffe maine by paffing fell and fkin.

The pyne that beares his head up to the haughtie skie,

Would well have beene removed at first, as daylie proofe doth trie,

Which now no force of man nor engine may fubvart,

So wyde the creeping rootes are run by Natures fubtill art.

So love by flender fleight and little paine at furft

Would have beene ftopt; but hardly now though thou wouldft doe thy wurft.

The woonted faw is true, fhun love, and love will flee;

But follow love, and fpite thy nose, then love will follow thee:

And though fuch graffed thoughts on fodaine may not die,

Ne be forgone, yet processe shall their farther grouth destrie.

No giaunt for his lyfe can cleave a knarrie oke,

Though he would feeke to doe his wurft and utmost at a stroke;

But let the meaneft man have fpace to fell him downe,

And he will make him bende his head, and bring his boughes to grownde.

No force of falling showre can pierce the marble stone,

As will the often drops of raine that from the gutters gone.

Wherefore, thou retchleffe man, my counfell with the mo

Is, that thou peecemeale doe expell the love that paines thee fo.

Renounce the place where fhee doth make fojourne and ftay;

Force not hir trayning truthleffe eies, but turne thy face away.

Thinke that the hurtfull hooke is coverde with fuch baite;

And that in fuch a pleafant plot the ferpent lurcks in waite.

Waie well hir fcornefull cheere, and think fhee feekes thy fpoyle;

And though thy conquest were atchivde, may not acquite thy toile.

Not ydle fee thou bee, take aye fome charge in hande:

And quickly shalt thou quench the flame of carelesse Cupids brande.

For what (I pray you) bred Ægisthus fowle defame,

And made him fpoken of fo yll? what put him to the shame?

What forcde the foole to love? his beaftly ydle lyfe

Was cause that he besotted was of Agamemnons wyse.

If he had fought in field, encountring with his foe

On ftately fteede, or elfe on foote with glave had given the bloe;

If he, that lecher lewde,

had warlick walles affailde

With cannon fhot, or bownfing ram, his fenced enmies quailde,

He had not felt fuch force of vile and beaftly fin,

Cupidos shafts had fallen short, if he had busie bin.

What Myrrha made to love, or Byblos to defire,

To quench the heate of hungrie luft and flames of filthy fire?

What Canace enforced

to frie with frantick brands,

In fort as up to yeeld hir felfe unto hir brothers hands?

And others thousand mo of whome the poets wright,

Nought elfe (good fayth) but for they had in ydle thoughts delight.

They fpent their youthfull yeares in foule and filthie trade;

They busied not their ydle braines, but God of Pleasure made.

Wherefore if thou (I fay)

doft covet to avoyde That bedlam boves deceitful

That bedlam boyes deceitfull bowe that others hath anoyde;

Efchewe the ydle lyfe,
flee, flee from doing nought,
For never was there ydle braine
but bred an ydle thought.
And when those stormes are past,
and cloudes remoovde away,

I know thou wilt on (Reason) thinke, and minde the words I say,

Which are that loove is roote and onely crop of care,

The bodies foe, the harts annoy, and cause of pleasures rare.

The ficknesse of the minde, the fountaine of unrest,

The goulfe of guile, the pit of paine, of griefe the hollow cheft.

A fierie frost, a flame, that frozen is with ife,

A heavie burden light to beare, a vertue fraught with vice.

It is a warlike peace, a fafetie fet in dred,

A deepe dispaire annext to hope, a famine that is fed:

Sweete poyfon for his tafte, A Porte Charybdis leeke,

A Scylla for his fafetie thought, a lyon that is meeke.

And (by my crowne I fweare) the longer thou doft love,

The longer fhalt thou live a thrall, as tract of time will prove.

Discomodities of Love.

Wherefore retire in hafte, and fpeede thee home againe,

And pardned shall thy trespasse bee, and thou exempt from paine.

Take Reafon for thy guide, as thou haft done of yore,

And fpite of Love thou shalt not love, ne be a thrall no more.

Repaire to Platos fchoole, and Tullies true advice;

Let Plutarch be and Seneca thy teachers to be wife.

This long and learned tale had broofed fo my braine,

As I forthwith to Reason ran, and gave thee up in plaine.

Fie, fie on Loue! quoth I,
I now perceive his craft;

For Reafon hath declarde at large how hee my freedome raft.

I fee his promife is

farre fayrer than his paie:

I finde how Cupid blearde mine eies, and made me run aftraie.

I wrote how hungrie Hope hath led mee by the lip,

And made mee moove an endleffe fute, well worth an oken chip.

Hee trainde mee all by trust;

I farde as hounde at hatch,

The leffer fruite I founde, the more I was procurde to watch.

Thus (mightie Lorde) I left thy lawes and flatutes flrong For rayling Reafons trifling talke, and offerd thee a wrong.

But now Dame Venus knowes, and thou, hir fonne, canst tell

That I within my covert hart doe love thee passing well.

Now fully bent to be

(fo thou wilt cleane put out

Of mind my passed injuries) thy man and souldier stout:

Preft to obey thy will, and never fwarve againe,

As long as Venus is of force, and thou thalt keepe thy raigne.

I weigh not Tullies tale, ne prating Platos talke;

Let Plutarch vouch what Plutarch can, let fkurvey Senec walke.

Olde Ovid will I reade,

whose pleasant wit doth passe The reast, as farre as stubborne steele

excells the brittle glaffe. In him thy deedes of armes and manly Marts appeare;

In him thy ftately fpoyles are feene as in a mirrour cleere:

Thy mothers prayfe and thine in him are to be founde,

For conqueftes which you had in heaven, and here bylow on grounde.

Forgive my former guilt,
forget my paffed toyes,
And graunt I may afpire againe
unto my woonted joyes.
If ever man did love,
or ferve in better fteede,
Then fhape my wageffe to the fame,
and doe reftraine my meede;
But fo I fight in fielde
as fiercely as the beft,
I hope that then your Godhead will
reward me with the reft.

After misadventures come good haps.

I NEVER thought but this, that luck in fine Would to my will and fanfie well incline; For dayly proofe doth make an open fhow That commen course of things would have it so. When stormie clouds from darkned skyes are fled, Then Phœbus shewes his gay and golden hed: His princely pride appeares when showers are past, And after day the night ensues as fast. When winter hath his trembling carkas showne, And wt his frostie soote the spring downe throwne, Then in leapes Æstas gay with gladsome gleames, That harvest brings and dries up winter streames. The barck that broylde in rough and churlish seas At length doth reach a port and place of ease: The wailefull warre in time doth yeelde to peace,

The larums lowde and trumpets found doth ceafe. Thus may we fee that chaunce is full of chaunge. And Fortune feedes on foode that is full ftraunge. Wherefore doe not defpaire, thou loving wight, For feas doe ebbe and flow by Natures might: From worfe to good our haps are chaunged oft, And bafeft things fometimes are rayfde aloft. So Gods would have, and Fortune doth agree, Which proufe appeares, and is expreft, by mee.

To his Love, that Controlde his Dogge for fawning on hir.

In deede (my Deare) you wrong my dog in this, And shew your selfe to be of crabbed kinde, That will not let my fawning whelp to kisse Your sist, yt saine would shew his maisters minde: A mastife were more sit for such a one, That can not let hir lovers dog alone.

He, in his kinde, for mee did feeme to fue, That earft did ftande fo highly in your grace: His maifters minde the wittie fpanell knewe, And thought his woonted miftreffe was in place; But now at laft (good faith) I plainly fee That dogs more wife than women friendly bee.

Wherefore, fince you fo cruelly entreate My whelp, not forcing of his fawning cheere, You fnew your felfe with pride to be repleate, And to your friend your nature doth appeare: The proverbe olde is verrifide in you, Love mee, and love my dog; and fo adue.

Both I and he that fiely beaft fustaine

For loving well and bearing faithfull harts, Defpitous checks, and rigorous difdaine, Where both have well deferved for our parts, For friendship I, for offred service hee, And yet thou neyther loovste the dog nor mee.

Upon the death of the aforenamed Dame Elizabeth Arhundle, of Cornewall.

What tongue can tell the wo?
what pen expresse the plaint?
Unlesse the Muses helpe at neede,

I feele my wits to faint. Yee that frequent the hilles and higheft holtes of all,

Affift mee with your skilfull quilles, and liften when I call.

And Phœbus, thou that fitst amidst the learned route,

Doo way thy bowe, and reach thy lute, and fay to founde it oute.

Helpe (learned Pallas) helpe to write the fatall fall

of hir, whose lyfe deserves to be

Whose parents were of fame, as Leyster well can show,

Where they in worship long had livde, with yeares did worship growe.

Of worship was the house from whence shee tooke hir line,

And she, a Dannat by discent, to worship did incline.

What neede I pen the prayfe of hir that livde fo well?

That of it felfe doth yeelde a founde, we neede not ring the bell.

Whilft Dannat did enfue Diana in the race,

A truer nymph than Dannat was was never earft in place:

With beautie fo adrest, with vertue so adornde,

Was none that more imbrafte the good, nor at the wicked fcornde.

When fleeing Fame with trumpe and blafted brute had brought

This Dannats thewes to courtlike ea[r] (which Dannat never fought)

To court fhe was procurde on Princesse to attende;

A fervice fit for fuch a one hir flowring yeares to fpende.

Where when she had remainde and fervde the Princesse well,

Not rashly, but with good advice to Junos yoke she fell.

A Woulfe by hap espide this fielie lambe in place,

And thought hir fittest for his pray: not gastly was his face,

Not woulflike were his eies, ne harrish was his voice, Nor fuch as lambes might feare to heare, but rather might rejoice.

A hart not bent to hate, or yeelding pray to fpill,

Unto Licaon farre unlike, whose pleasure was to kill.

Arhundle was his name, his flock of great difcent,

Whose predecessors all their lives in vertues path had spent.

Hee, not unlike the reft, behavde himfelfe fo well,

As he in fine became a Knight, fo to his fhare it fell.

Thus was this ladie fast conjoynde in facred knot,

Whose prime and tender yeares were spent devoyde of flaunders blot.

The match no fooner made, when mariage rites were donne,

But Dannat ranne hir race as right as fhee hir course begonne:

And footh it is, shee livde in wively bond fo well,

As fhe from Collatinus wife of chaftice bore the bell.

Ulyffes wyfe did blush

to heare of Dannats prayfe

Admetus make (the good Alceft) did yeelde up all hir kayes.

The Greekes might take in griefe of fuch a one to heere,

Who for hir well deferved fame could have no Greekish peere.

Thus many yeares were fpent with good and foothfast life,

Twixt Arhundle, that worthie knight, and his approoved wife;

Of whome fuch impes did fpring, fuch fruite began to growe,

Such iffue did proceede, as we them by their braunches knowe.

The oke will yeelde no grapes, the vine will beare no hawes:

Ech thing must follow kindly course by Natures fixed lawes.

Even fo that worthie tree fuch fruite is feene to beare.

As yet commends the withred flocks, and them to welkin reare.

Thus did they live in joy, till chaunce and spitefull death

These loving turtles did devide, and reft the cock his breath:

Then first the bale began,
then black attyre came on,
And Dannate drawing double was fee

And Dannats dreerie doole was feene with never ftinting mone.

Nought might hir forrow fwage, but ftill she did bewaile

The cinders of her feverd make with teares of none availe.

Seaven yeares she fpent in wo, refusing other make;

For fuch is turtles kinde you know, they will none other take.

I doubt where Dido felt the like tormenting rage,

When that the guilefull guest was gone that laid his fayth to gage.

This Dannats vertues were fo rife, and eke fo rare,

As few with hir for honeft life and wifdome might compare.

Minerva did fojourne within that wively breft;

Hir deedes declarde that in hir head Dame Pallas was a gueft.

But what we covet most, or chiefest holde in price,

With greedie gripe of darting death is reaved with a trice.

The cruell Sifters three were all in one agreede

To let the fpindle run no more, but shrid the fatall threede:

And fortune (to expresse what swing and sway she bare)

Allowde them leave to use their force upon this jewell rare.

Thus hath the welkin woon, and we a loffe fuftainde,

Thus hath hir corfe a vaute founde out, her fprite the heavens gainde.

Since fobbing will not ferve, ne fledding teares availe To bring the foule to corps againe, his olde and woonted gaile, Leave off to bath hir ftone with Niobs teares to long. For thou shalt aide hir naught at all, but put thy felfe to wrong. With that hir foule may reach the place from whence it came, And she be guerdond for hir life with never dying fame: For fure she well deferved to have immortall prayle, And lawde more light than clearest Sunne, or Phœbus golden rayes. If ought my flender skill or writing were of powre,

Disprayse of Women, that allure and love not.

When fo you vew in verfe,
_and poets rimes report,
Of Lucrece, and Ulyffes wife,
that lives in honeft fort;
When Hippo commes by hap,
or good Alceft yfeare,
And other fome that by defert
with fame renowmed were,
Then you with haftie doome,
and rafhfull fentence ftraight,

No processe of ingratefull time hir vertues should devoure.

Will vaunt that women more and leffe were all with vertue fraight.

And, for those fewe that livde in wively bonde so well,

You will esteeme the reast by those that onely bare the bell:

But follow found advice, let eche receyve hir doome,

As ech in vertue did furmount, or fit in highest roome.

So cleane was never feede yfifted, but among,

For all their paynes, were weedes that grew to put the graine to wrong.

That troupe of honest dames, those Grifels all are gone;

No Lucrece now is left alive, ne Cleopatra none.

Those dayes are all ypast, that date is fleeted by;

They myrrors were Dame Nature made hir skilfull hande to try.

Now course of kinde exchaungde doth yeelde a woorser graine,

And women in these latter yeares those modest matrones staine.

Deceit is their delight;

great fraude in friendly lookes:

They fpoyle the fifh for friendships fake that hover on their hookes.

They buye the baite to deare that fo their freedome loze,

And they the more deceitfull are that fo can craft and gloze.

With beautie to allure, and murder with disdaine,

What more may be gainft womens kind where ruth of right fhould raigne?

So Memphite crocodile, (as we in poets fine)

Where Nylus with his fevenfold streame to feaward doth incline,

With ruthleffe trickling teares and lamentable founde,

The fiely beaft, with pittie moovde, doth cruelly confounde.

So marmaydes in the flood, and fyrens fweetly fing,

Till they the musing mariner to speedie death doe bring.

Now Helen for hir traine with Dian may compare,

Such fundrie Helens now are found, and Dians nymphes fo rare:

Who if by craft espie thy senses once to bende,

And bow by Cupids fubtile breach that burning gleames doth fende,

Then will they feeke in hafte by force of friendly blinck,

And wrested looke into thy breast their beauties shape to sinck.

Which if be brought to passe, then have they their desire, And flanding farre doe fmile to fee the flaming of the fire.

Then looke they on a loofe, and never once repaire

To ende the ftrife that they have ftirrde twixt lover and difpaire.

As shepheards, when they see the ganders soe in snare,

Rejoyce, that from their foldes of late their fiely cattle bare:

Or boy that knowes the foule to be in pithole caught,

That woonted was to fteale the ftale, and fet the fnare at naught:

So wily women woont to laugh, when fo they fpie

The loving wight, ytraynde by trust, in poynt and pinch to die.

But if fuch chaunce doe chaunce (as often chaunce we fee)

The fifth that earft was hangde on hooke by better chaunce be free;

If he by happie hap

doe east off Cupids yoke,

Not fetting of their love a leeke that gave the cruell stroke,

Then are removed the cloudes of hir diffainfull brow.

And friendships flood, that earst was drie, asresh begins to flow.

Then wrefteth shee hir grace, and makes a feeming show,

As though she ment no chaunge at all, ne would hir heftes forgo.

Thus are they fright with wiles whome Nature made fo plaine,

Thus Sinons shifts they put in ure their purpose to attaine.

Wherefore let be our care Ulyffes trade to trie,

And stop our eares against the founde of syrens when they crie.

Think when thou feeft the baite whereon is thy delite,

That hidden hookes are hard at hande to bane thee when thou bite.

Think well that poyfon lurckes in shape of sugar sweete,

And where the freshest flowres are seene there most beware thy seete:

But chiefly women shoonne, and follow mine advice.

If not, thou mayst perhaps in prouse of folly beare the price.

To trust to rotten boughes the daunger well is feene;

To treade the tylled trap unwares hath alwayes perill beene.

Have Medea still in minde; let Circe be in thought,

And Helen, that to utter fack both Greece and Troie brought;

Let Crefide be in coumpt and number of the mo,

Who for hir lightnesse may presume with falsest on the row;

Else would she not have lest a Trojan for a Greeke.

But what? by kinde the cat will hunt; hir father did the like.

As wylie are their wits,

fo are their tongues untrue,

Unconstant and aye fleeting mindes that most imbrace the nue.

When fixed is their fayth, it reftes on brittle fande;

And when thou deemste them furste of all, they beare thee but in hande.

Though Argus were alive, whose eies in number were

As many as the peacock proude in painted plume doth beare,

Yet women, by their wyles and well acquainted drifts,

Would foone deceive his waking head, and put his eies to shifts.

Nought have they neede at all Cyllenus pipe to blow

To forge their fraude, their tongues will ferve, as learned writers show.

First trie and then tell Where I have fayd well; For without a triall There vailes no deniall.

Of a Phisition and a Soothsayer.

MARCKE felt himfelfe difeafde:
the Soothfayer fayd, There bee
Sixe yet remainder daies of life,
no mo (friende Marcke) to thee.
Then fkilfull Alcon came,
he felt the pulfes beate,
And out of hande this Marcus dide:
there phifick wrought his feate.
This fhowes Phifition doth
the Soothfayer farre exceede;
For thone can make a fhort difpatch,
when thother makes no fpeede.

A Controversie of a conquest in Love twixt Fortune and Venus.

WHILST fifsher keft his line
the hovering fifh to hooke,
By hap a rich mans daughter on
the fifsher keft hir looke.
Shee fryde with frantick love,
they maride eke at laft;
Thus fifsher was from lowe eftate
in top of treafure plaft.
Stoode Fortune by and fmylde:
how fay you (dame) quoth shee
To Venus? was this conqueft yours,
or is it due to mee?

Twas I (quoth Vulcans wife)
with helpe of Cupids bowe,
That made this wanton wench to rage,

and match hir felfe fo lowe.

Not fo: twas Fortune I that brought the trull in place;

And Fortune was it that the man floode fo in maydens grace.

By Fortune fell their love, twas Fortune ftrake the ftroke;

Then detter is this man to mee that did the match provoke.

The Lover voweth, how fo ever he be guerdoned, to love faithfully.

UNTHANKFULL though fhe were, and had difdainefull browe,

Regarding nought my conftant hart, ne forcing of hir vowe,

Since fowen is the feede of faithfull friendships lore,

Unconstant will I never be, ne breake my hest therefore.

Let Fortune use hir force, fo Cupide stande mine ayde,

And Cyprid laugh with loovely looke, I will not be afrayde.

By mee the noble kinde of man fhall not be fhamde,

Recorde through mee fhall never force our fequell be defamde.

Albe that I confume

my greene and growing youth,

Yea age and all, without rewarde, yet nill I fwarve my truth.

Eche that shall after come, and live when I am dust,

This loving hart shall well descrie the key of perfite trust.

Hir, while my vitall breath these fainting limmes shall moove:

Yea, after death in hollow vawte ytombed, will I loove.

Force shee my fervice true, I force it not at all.

Rue she by ruth my dreerie life, or it to mercy call,

In ftay my love shall ftand,
I will not false my fayth,

Ne breake my former plighted heft or promife to the death.

Difdaine shall never force my friendship once awrie:

Ere that I crave, immortall Gods, that ye will let me die.

Let Dido ftill complaine Æneas broken heft,

Of all that came to Carthage coaft the most unsaythfull guest:

Untruftie Thefeus eke, Let Ariadne cleepe,

Escaping from his friendly feere yled in flumbring fleepe. So let Medea blame the knight that woon the flife, That forced naught at all in fine hir cleapings and hir cries. Have thou the faythfull hart of thine affured friend. Ere he be of that retchlesse race the funne awrie shall wende: Where fo thou yeelde him grace, or as an outcast shoon. Expect his former plighted heft as thou tofore haft doon. Love will hee never blame. ne Venus lawes forgo, - Life fooner shall than love decrease. his faith is fixed fo.

He forrowes the long absence of his Ladic, P.

Now once againe (my Mufe) renne the woes
Which earft thou haft in doolefull dittie foong,
For greater cause of sorrow not arose
To mee at all, than now of late is sproong:
As you shall heare, in sad and solemne verse,
A wofull wight his haplesse hap rehearse.
Come (Clio) come, with pensive pen in hande,
And cause thy sisters chaunge their cheerefull voice:
Ye suries fell that lurcke in Plutos lande,
Come skip to skies, and raise a doolefull noice:

Helpe to lament the lovers wofull chaunce, And let Alecto leade the lothfome daunce.

All ye that ladies are of Lymbo Lake, With hiffing haire, and fnakie bush bedect, Your beddes of steele and dankish dennes forsak, And Stix with stinking sulpher all insect: Doe what you may to ayde my carefull quill, And helpe to ring a lovers latter knill.

And time (I trow) fith fhe from hence is fled, Who was the guide and giver of my breath, By whome I was with wifhed pleafure fed, And have escapte the ruthlesse hande of death, Who was the key and cable of my life, That made me scape Charybdis carefull clife.

A starre whereby to steare my bodies bark, And ship of soule to shoare in safetie bring, To quite my corfe from painefull pining cark, And sierie sorce of crastie Cupids sting: Even she that me from Syllas shelfe did shroude, That light is lost, that lodestarre under cloude.

Whose absence breedes the tempest I sustaine, And makes my thoughts so cloudie black to bee, And brackish teares from swolen eies to raine, And churlish gale of surging sighes to flee:

That ancor scarce, ne harbour I may have From deepe dispaire my broken ship to save.

The rubie from the ring is reft I finde, The foile appeares that underneath was fet: The faint is gone, the shrine is lest behinde, The fish is scapte, and here remaines the net; That other choise for me is none but this, To waile the want of hir that is my bliffe.

I curffe the wight that caufde hir hence to go, I hate the horfe that hence hir corfe convaide, The bit, the faddle, all I curffe aroe, And ought that elfe might this hir journey ftaide: I curffe the place where she doth now sojourne, And that whereto she mindes to shape retourne.

My mouth, that kift hir not before the went,
Mine eies, that did not feeke to fee hir face;
My head, that it no matter did invent;
My hande, that it in paper did not place;
My feete, that they refused to travell tho,
My legges I curste that were fo loth to go.

My tongue, that it to parle did then procure To utter all my close and covert minde,
To hir who long hath had my woundes in cure,
In whome such ruth and mercie I did finde:
My hart I cursse, that sought not to bewray
It selfe to hir, or ere she went hir way.

And last my selse and erie thing beside, My life, my limmes, my carrion corfe I cursse: Save hir for whome these torments I abide, That of my lyse is onely well and sourse. Jove shroude hir salse, and keepe hir from annoy, And sende hir soone to make returne with joy.

To his Love long absent, declaring his torments.

O LINGRING love! O friende that abfent art fo long, Where fo thou be, the Gods thee guide, and quit thy corfe from wrong! And fende thee harmeleffe health, and fafety to revart,

How foone your felfe may deeme full well, to fave a dying hart.

For fince your parture I have lead a lothfome state;

And fave the hope of your returne nought might my woes abate.

And will you know the time how I have spent away?

And doe you long in ruthfull rime my torments to furvay?

Though but with weeping eies I may the fame recite,

Yet naythelesse the truth herein to thee (my friend) I write.

When flickring fame at first unto mine eares had brought

That you to travell were addrest, and fixed was your thought

In London long to lodge, and flee our friendly foile,

Then dolour first in daunted corps and wounded breast did boile.

I felt how griefe did give the onfet on my hart;

And forrow fware that penfive pangues fhould never thence depart.

With clinching clawes there came, and talents fharply fet,

A flock of greedie griping woes my grunting hart to fret. The more I fought the meane by pleafaunt thought to eafe

My growing griefe, the more I felt increase my new disease.

When other laught for joy,

it brought to minde my woe;

When mufick flakte their forrowes, then my fecret fore did growe.

When they at meate were fet their daintie foode to tafte,

In ftead of viands, hartie fighes
I had for my repaste:

When Bacchus came to boorde, and eche to other drincks,

My fwolen floud of falted teares did overflow his brincks,

- And out did gushe amaine, of drinke to stande in steede

To me, that of fuch monftrous meate as forrow was did feede.

From boorde to bed I go in hope to finde reliefe,

And by some pleasaunt nap to rid my troubled ghost from griese:

But flumbring fleepe is fled, and Morpheus flewes his fpight,

That will not yeelde on minuts reaft in all a winters night.

O Lorde! what fundrie kindes of care doe then begin

Taffault my wearie waking head, and trembling hart within:

A thousande thoughts arise, eche thought his torment brings,

And thus the lothed night I fpend, and feele how forrow fprings.

And if in dawning chaunce fome drouping fleepe to light

Upon the carefull corfe that thus hath fpent the waking night,

It flandes in little fleade:

fo dreadfull are my dreames

As they by force of wo procure mine eies to runne with ftreames.

Then bathe I bed with brine, and cloy my couch with teares,

And mid my fleepe thy griefly ghost in straungie fort appeares.

Not with fuch friendly face and brow of gladfome cheare

As earft thou hadft: those lovely lookes and blincks are all areare:

More grimmer is your grace, more coye your countnance eake,

More lowring lookes than were of yore, and brow more bent to wreake.

In hande, mee thinkes, I fee thee holde the hatefull knife

To flea thy friend, and for good will to reave deferved lyfe.

Wherewith I wake afright and ftraine my pillowe fast,

To garde me from the cruell toole untill your wrath be paft.

At length I fee it plaine that fansie did enforce

Unto his ugly monftrous dreame my weake and flumbring corfe.

I vewe thy fecret hart,

and how it longs to bee With him, that for unfayned love

impawnde his faith to thee.

For mercie then I call of you that judge fo yll,

Whose pleasure is to garde your friend, and not your foe to kyll.

Of dreames a thousand such eche night I have a share,

To bannish sleepe from pining corfe and nurse my canckred care.

Thus day and night I live, thus night and day I die:

In death I feele no fmart at all, in life great wo I trie.

Wherefore to rid my griefes and bannish all annoie.

Retire from Greece, and doe fojourne here with thy friend in Troie;

Who longs to fee thy face and witneffe of thy ftate,

And partner be of thy delights his furious fits to bate.

To Browne, of light beliefe.

Beware, my Browne, of light beliefe; truft not before you trie,

For under cloke of great good will doth fained friendship lie.

As wylie adder lurcks in leaves and greeneft graffe of all,

And ftings the ftalking wight that thought no daunger would befall;

So is the plaine unplayted man by fubtile dealing guilde,

And foonest fnarde by subtile shifts of him that smoothly smilde.

Wee never fee the frowning friend that frets to outwarde showe,

Beguile or feeke to false his friend, as dothe the fleering foe.

The mastife dog is voyded well, that barcks or ere he bite;

But (oh) the cur is cruell that doth never barck a whit.

Deale thou as courtyers daylie doe, in wordes be franck and free,

Speake fayre and make the weather cleere to him that gybes with thee;

For fo thou shalt affured ftande from hurt to be as farre,

As from the grounde of true good will those glosing marchaunts are.

A wifedome to beware of woulfes, and foxes guilefull guife,
For tone is craftie by his kinde, the other paffing wife;
So that it is a matter harde their double drifts to flee:
But yet thou shalt avoyde the wurft, if thou be rulde by mee. (q

(qd) G. T.

That Death is not fo much to be feared, as daylie difeafes are.

WHAT! yst not follie for to dread and ftande of Death in feare, That mother is of quiet reaft, and griefes away doth wear; That brings release to want of welth, and poore oppressed wightes? He comes but once to mortall men, but once for all he fmites: Was never none that twife hath felt of cruell death the knife. But other griefes and pining paines doe linger on the life, And oftentimes on felfe fame corfe with furious fits moleft. When death, by one dispatcht of life, doth bring the foule to rest.

The Epicures counsell: Eate, drinke, and plaie.

My friend, where as thou feeft thy felfe to be a man in deede,

Eate, quaffe, and play, with prefent joyes thy greedie fansie feede;

For I (thou feeft) am dust become that earst so welthie was:

I have that I alive did eate, the reaft away did paffe.

What fo I poorde in pampred paunch and to my guts convaide,

To gaping grounde with me I bore, the reaft behinde is ftaide.

My haughtie buildings, huge to fee, my turrets and my traine,

My horfe, my houndes, my cofred coine for others doe remaine.

Wherefore a myrrour make of mee, and drowne thee in delight;

For death will fweepe away thy welth, and reave thy pleafures quight.

The Aunswere to the vile and canckred counsell of the outragious Epicure.

My friend, for that I fee my felfe to be a man in deede, Thy quaffing counfell I refuse, unlesse to ferve my neede.

I muse no whit that thou art dust: thy beaftly lyving heere Was meane to bring thee to thy bane, the fooner for thy cheere. Thou thoughts to pamper by thy paunch, but thou didft feede ywis The greedie wormes that gnaw thy guts, for them a daintie dish. Good reason that thouldst forgo and leave thy goods behinde, For that a beaft fo lyke a beaft didft live against thy kinde: A man in name, no man in deede, thou art that counselft mee To live as thou hast livde, and die a monster like to thee. For fince thy lyfe fo lothfome was, and shamefull eake thy death, I will beware, and make a glaffe of thee whilft I have breath. To shunne thy sluttish sinfull fect, thy tipling and thy toyes; For after death those pleasures passe,

Of Homer and his birth.

THE poet Homer Chius claimes, Colophon doth the leeke; And Smyrne fweares that he is hirs that was the learned Greeke.

as did thy fickle joyes.

Of Salamine fome fay he was, of Iö other fome;

And divers make report that he of Thessale line did come.

Thus fundred and devided are the peoples mindes of thee,

(Thou princely poet) but my thought with neyther doth agree;

For I affuredly suppose and deeme the heavenly speare

Thy foyle, and Pallas lap the wombe that did thy body beare.

Hir breaft (the dug) that thou didft fuck in cradle when thou layft;

With haughtie stile so much (thou Greeke) thy mazed head dismayst.

That Time conquereth all things, fave the Lovers paine.

WAS never bull fo fell
with wrinckle fronted face,
But time would make him yeeld to yoke
and toyle the ground apace.

The horse ybred in holte and sed in lustie lease,

In time will champe the fomie bit, his riders will to pleafe.

The lions that are woode and raging in their kinde,

By trackt of time their keepers know in whome they friendship finde. Those beaftes that come from Inde, and farthest partes of all,

In time doe fwerve their favage fect, and to their dutie fall.

Time makes the grape to growe and vine to fpreade at large,

So that the fkin fcarfe able is to holde his inwarde charge:

So Ceres fruite doth fproute by force of growing time,

Which makes the ftrength of hidden feede into the ftalke to clime.

Time makes the tender twig to boufteous tree to grow;

It makes the oke to overlooke the flender fhrubs bylow.

It frets the culter keene that cuts the froting foyle;

It forceth hardest flint of all and marble to recove.

Time wreakefull wrath fubdues, it breaketh angers gall,

And eche disease in time hath helpe: thus time doth conquer all.

Though these and others like by processe are procurde,

Yet naythelesse my festred wounde can not in time be curde;

For that which fendeth falve and comfort to the reaft,

Doth cause my ranckling fore to rage, and dubble in my breast.

As fprings that from a mount
doe take their downewarde fourfe,
To whome there may no barre be founde
to ftop their headlong courfe;
So lordlike love, yftaulde
and ceazde in yeelding minde,
May not be difpoffeft againe:
fuch is his ftately kinde.

To his Friend riding to Londonwarde.

As Troylus did rejoice When Crefid yeelded grace, And dained him from fervice true fo neere hir hart to place. So have I joyde (my deare) for friendship which I founde, And love requited with the like, which curde my carefull wounde. And he full shrilly shright, and doolde his wofull chance. On Greekish steede from Trojan towne when Crefid gan to prance, And leave the lyked foyle where did fojourne hir joie, I meane the worthy Troylus and lovingst youth in Troie. Even fo I waile at thy departure, would thou wift, And out I crie a wretched wight that thought himselfe yblist.

O London! lothfome lodge,
why doft thou now procure
My love to leave this pleafant foyle
that hath my hart in cure?
Since needes it muft be fo,
gainfend hir home in haft:
Let hir retire with harmeleffe health,
that fickleffe hence is paft.
Yeelde mee a good account
of hir that is my joie,
And fend hir to hir Troylus
that longs for hir in Troic.

Of the raine and cloudy weather at the time of his Friends departure from Troic.

No mervaile though the funne do hide his hed, And under cloude do keepe his lowring lookes; No woonder that the fkie his teares doth fhed, And with his ftreames increase the water brookes: The cause is knowne, the proofe is passing plaine, My love and I be fundred to our paine.

Now she is gone that did sustaine my breath, And savde my ship of bodie from the wrack, By whome I scapte the cruell hande of Death, Which thought to bring my corfe to utter sack: The welkin weepes, and helpes me to bewaile With gushing showres the losse of mine availe.

Wherefore, O heavenly ftates! that rulers bee Of ftarrie fkies from whence these teares discende, And flush so fast as mortall wights doe see, Of ruth in needefull time my woes to ende, Procure my love to make returne in post, To gard from griese hir friends afflicted ghost.

If not, with flashing flame and thunder dint, By Vulcan forgde and hammerd for the nones, Confume to dust my flesh my wo to stint, And with thy mace (O Jove) unjoint my bones: That by such scath and losse of vitall breath, I may avoide a worse and straunger death.

For like the teene, that now my hart fustaines, Was never felt, nor fuch oppressing care:
Of force my life must yeelde to pinching paines
Of hasting death, the fits fo surious are:
Which though be so, when I am wrapt in clay,
(My soule) to hir thou shalt repaire and say:

That whilft the lyfe would fuffer mee to woonne With mortall wights, my hart was hirs at will, And now my fpindle hath his course yroonne And twist is none yleft, thou wilt fulfill The dutie which thy maister ought of right, And which he would accomplish, if he might.

Of a covetous Niggard, and a needie Monfe.

ASCLEPIAD, that greedie carle,
by fortune found a mouse,
(As he about his lodgings lookte)
within his niggish house:
The chiding chuffe began to chause,
and (sparefull of his cheere)

Demaunded of the fiely beaft,
and fayde, what makfte thou heere?
You neede not ftand in feare (good friend)
the fmiling moufe replide:
I come not to devoure your cates,
but in your houfe to hide.
No man this mifer I account
that chid this hurtleffe elfe;
No moufe the moufe, but wifer than
the patch that owde the pelfe.

A pretie Epigram of a Scholler, that having read Vergils Æneidos, married a curst wyfe.

A SCHOLLAR skillde in Vergils verse, and reading of his booke (Arma virumque) that begins, was caught in Cupids hooke. At length to mariage flat he fell: when wedding day was doon, To play hir prancks, and bob the foole the shrowish wife begoon. The husband daylie felt the fiftes and buffets of his wife. Untill at last he thus began to plaine of painefull life. (Oh caitiffe mee!) the fchollar cryde, well worthy of this wo, For arma I virumque read in Vergill long ago;

Yet could not fee to fcape the plague whereof the poet spake. No doubt that noble poet for a prophet I will take. For arma now virumque I both day and night fustaine At home. I neede not runne to schoole to reade the verse againe. Would (virum) were away, and then

let (arma) doe their wurst;

But when I matcht with fuch a fhrew, I think I was accurft.

To a your Gentleman, of taking a Wyfe.

LONG you with greedie minde to leade a lyfe That pleafaunt is in deede, and voyde of care? I never wishe you, then, to take a wyfe, Nor fet your foote in craftie Cupids fnare. A filthie trull is yrkefome too the eie, A gallant girle allures the lookers minde: A wanton wench will have the head too die, An a ed trot to lyke is hard to finde. A bearing wyfe with brats will cloy thee fore, A greater carcke than childrens care is none; A barraine beaft will greeve thee ten times more: No joy remaines when hope of fruite is gone. Wherefore let wyving go, lyve fingle aye, Apply the booke, and bande the ball among. A fhrew (we fee) is wedded in a day, But ere a man can shift his handes tys long.

The Aunswere, for taking a Wyfe.

LONG you with greedie minde to bleare mine eie, And make mee thinke of marige thus amisse? I cannot deeme fo yll of wyving I: To love and wed for love is perfite bliffe. A filthy trull (you fay) is lothfome fight: Put case she be not passing faire to vewe; If she with vertue doe the want requight Of comely shape, thou hast no cause to rue. A gallant girle allures the lookers minde, What shall we fay the womans is the shame? Bicaufe the cleerest eies by course of kinde Can not abide the funne, is hee to blame? A wanton wench to die will have the hed: Canst thou not see before thou wade so farre? His be the hurt that lookes not ere he wed; The husband may the woman make or marre. Put case an aged trot be somewhat tough: If coyne shee bring the care will be the lesse. If shee have store of muck and goods ynough, Thou needste not force so much of handsomnesse. A bearing wyfe doth make the husband glad; A greater jove than childrens may not bee: A barraine wench fometime must needes be had; There doth not fruite fpring out of every tree. So that I finde no reason, none at all, In that thou wilft a man to fingle lyfe, And quite to flun the comfort that may fall, And daylie doth, to him that hath a wyfe.

For fure though fome be shrewes, as some there be, (As of the sheepe are some that beare no wull)

Yet must we praise the match whereby we see

The earth maintainde with men, and stored full.

But if you thinke so yll to take a wyse,

Let others wed, leade you the single lyse.

(qd) G. T.

Of a deafe Plaintife, a deafe Defendant, and a deafe Judge.

By hap a man that could not heare, but borne deafe by kinde, Another cited to the court, much like himselfe to finde, Whofe hearing fense was quight bereft: the judge, that of the cafe Should give his verdit, was as deafe as deafest in the place. To court they came: the plaintife praide to have the unpaid rent. Defendant faide, in grinding I this wearie night have spent. The judge behelde them both a while: is this at last (quoth hee) Of all your stirred strife the cause? you both hir children bee: Then reason willes, and law allowes your mother should have aide At both your handes that are hir fonnes.

When thus the judge had faide,

The people laught a good to heare
this well discussed case
Twixt two dease men, and thought him sit
to sit in judges place
Upon so blinde a matter that
was dease as any rock:
And thus the simple men were shamde,

A promife of olde good will, to an olde friend at the beginning of new yere.

THE chuffes for greedie gaine
and lucers loove expende
Their new yeares gifts upon their lords
as erie yeare hath ende:
-But I, in token that
the yeare his course hath roon,

the justice had a mock.

And prouse that joyfull Janus hath a novell yeare begoon:

(As love and dutie willes) the herauld of my hart,

Here fend to you, to make a flew that friendship shall not start.

Though yeares doe chaunge by courfe, and alter by their kinde,

My olde good will and faith to flip I truft you shall not finde.

Timetes will be true, his love shall never blin;

But gather strength, and grow to more than when it did begin.

A Vow to serve faithfully.

In greene and growing age, in luftie yeeres, In latter dayes when filver bush appeares; In good and gladfome hap when fortune ferves, In lowring luck when good aventure fwerves; By day when Phœbus shewes his princely pride, By night when golden ftarres in fkies do glide, In winter when the groves have loft their greene, In fommer when the longest dayes are feene; In happie helth when fickleffe limmes have lyfe, In griefull state, amids my dolors ryfe, In pleafant peace when trumpets are away, In wreakfull warre when Mars doth beare the fway; In perillous goulfe amid the finking fande, In fafer foyle and in the stable lande; When fo you laugh, or elfe with grimmer grace You beare your faithfull friend unfriendly face, In good report and time of woorfer fame, I will be yours, yea, though I loofe the game.

Funerall Verse upon the Death of Sir John Horsey, knight.

THAT welth affigned is to wafte away,
And flately pompe to vanish and decrease;
That worship weares and worldly wights decay,
And fortunes gifts, though nere so brave, do cease,
May well appeare by Horsey's hatefull heirce,
Whose corse (alas) untimely death did pierce.

Who thought thereby as nature to fubdue By reaving breath and rowne in worldly ftage, So blafted brute to blot, and fame that flue Of him that well defervde, in all his age, For worship and renowne to have his share Among the reast that prayse for vertue bare.

But feeking waies to wrong this worthy wight, Shee fowly myft hir purpose in the fine: For Horsey gaines by death's outragious spight, And endlesse fame, whereat his soes repine: But eche man else laments and cries alowde, That Horsey was to soone ywrapt in shrowde.

The rich report that ruth in him did raigne, And pittie lodgde within his looving breaft; The fimple fay that for no meaner gaine, He hath at any time the poore oppreft: Thus-both eftates his worthy life commende, And both lament his overhafting ende.

Then ceafe (I fay) fuch flushing teares to shed; Doo way thy doole, represse thy ruthfull mone, For Horsey lives, his soule to skies is sled, The onely corse is closed in marble stone. So that thou hast no cause to waile his chaunce, Whome spitefull death by hatred did advaunce.

To his Friend T. having bene long fludied and well experienced, and now at length loving a Gentlewoman that forced him naught at all.

I THOUGHT, good faith, and durft have gagde my hand, For you (friend T.) that beautie should now hight

Have rasde your hart, nor Cupid with his brand Have brought thy learned breast to fuch a plight.

I thought Minerva's gift had beene of powre By holesome reade to roote this fansie out; But now I see that Venus in an howre Can bend the best, and dawnt the wise and stoute.

Why shouldft thou feeke to make the tiger tame? To win a woulfe fo cruell by his kinde? To fuffer Æfop's fnake thou art to blame, That ftoong the man where he reliefe did finde.

Is naught in hir but womans name alone?

No woman fure she is, but monster fell,

That scornes hir friend, and makes him die with mone.

Who makes an idoll of a divell of hell.

Shee was cut out of fome fea-beaten rock, Or taken from the cruell lyons tet, That feedes hir friend for friendship with a mock, And fmiles to fee him macht in follies net.

If thou wert wife (as thou art full of love)
Thou wouldst account hir beautie but a glaffe,
And from thy hart fuch fanfies fond remove:
I loth to fee the lyon wer an affe.

If fo she were thy faithfull friend in deede, And fought a falve to cure thy cruell fore, (As now shee feekes to make thy hart to bleede) Good fayth thou couldft account of hir no more.

But waying now hir great abuse to thee, A friend to hir, but to thyselfe a soe, Why shouldst thou love, or so enamoured bee? Leave off be time; let all such dotage goe. Should I imbrace the man that hates my life? Should I account of him that fettes me light? Should I yeeld up my throate to murthring knife, Or feeke for to reclaime a haggard kite?

Haft thou not read how wife Ulyffes did Enftuffe his eares with waxe, and close them up, Of Cyrce's filthie love himselfe to rid, That turnd his mates to swine by witches cup?

And how he did the lyke upon the feas, The pleafant noyfome fyrens fongs tendure, That otherwife had wrought him great uneafe, If once they mought his mates and him allure?

Put thou the Greekes devise againe in ure; Stop up thine eares this fyren to beguile, Seale up those wanton eies of thine, be sure To lend no eare unto hir flattring stile:

For all hir talke but to deceite doth tende; A canckred hart is wrapt in friendly lookes: Shee all hir wittes to thy decay both bende; Thou art the fish, she beares the byting hookes.

No favage beaft doth force a man a whit That loves him not: we fee the dogged curre Fawnes not one him that with ye whip doth fmite; The horse hates him yt pricks him with the spurre.

And wilt thou love, or place within thy breft The cruell dame that weaves thy web of woe? Wilt thou ftill fawne upon fo false a gueft? In ftead of dove wilt thou retaine a crowe?

Beware in time, ere beautie pierce to farre; Let fansies go, love where is love againe; For doubtlesse now to much to blame you arre, To sowe good will, and reape but sowle distaine. I counfaile thus that may thee best advise,
For that my selfe did serve a cruell dame:
The blinde recurde can judge of bleared eies,
The criple healde knowes how to heale the lame.
Shake thou betimes the yoke from off thy neck,
For seare the print thereof remaine behind:
A happie man is he that seares no check,
But lives at freedome with contented minde.

An Epitaph upon the death of the worshipfull Maister Richarde Edwardes, late Maister of the Children in the Queenes Majesties Chappell.

IF teares could tell my thought,
or plaints could paint my paine,
If dubled fighes could fhew my fmart,
if wayling were not vaine:
If gripes that gnawe my breft
coulde well my griefe expreffe,
My teares, my plaints, my fighes, my wayling never fhould furceffe.
By meane whereof I might
unto the world difclofe

The death of fuch a man (alas) as chaunced us to lofe.

But what avayles to mone? if life for life might bee

Restorde againe, I woulde exchaunge my lyse for death with thee:

Or if I might fome way to pay thy rawnfome know,

(O Edwards)! then beleve me fure, thou fhouldft not lie fo low;

That O thou cruell death!

fo fierce with dint of dart,

Due curfes on my knees I yeelde to thee with all my hart,

For that it lift thee trie thy foule and cankred fpite

On that fo rare a peece, on that fo wife and worthy wight.

Suffifde thee (fince thou must be mad) the simple fort

To flea, or on the brutish blood of beastes to take the sport,

And not in furious wife,

with hafte and headlong rage

To kill the flowre of all our realme and Phænix of our age?

The fact doth crie revenge, the Gods repay thine hire,

Deepe darckned Lake of Lymbo lowe, and ftill confuming fire.

His death, not I, but all good gentle harts doe mone:

O London! though thy griefe be great, thou doft not mourne alone.

The feate of Muses nine where fiftene welles doe flowe.

Whose sprinckling springs and golden streames ere this thou well didst knowe.

Lament to loofe this plant, for they shall see no more

The braunch that they fo long had bred, whereby they fet fuch ftore.

O happie house! O place of Corpus Christi! thou

That plantedft first, and gavste the roote to that so brave a bow:

And Chrift Church, which enjoydste the fruite more rype at fill,

Plunge up a thousande fighes, for griefe your trickling teares distill.

Whilft Childe and Chappell dure, whilft Court a Court shall bee,

(Good Edwards) eche eftate fhall much both want and wishe for thee.

Thy tender tunes and rimes wherein thou woontft to play,

Eche princely dame of Court and towne fhall beare in minde alway.

Thy Damon and his friend, Arcyte and Palemon,

With moe full fit for princes eares, though thou from earth art gone,

Shall ftill remaine in fame, and lyke fo long to bide

As earthly things shall live, and God this mortall globe shall guide.

For loe! thus vertue lift, hir pupils to advance,

Yet for my part I would that God had given thee better chaunce;

A longer time on earth, thy haftned death before; But, Edwardes, now farewell, for teares will let me write no more.

Well may thy bones be lodgde, thy fame abroade may flie,

Thy facred foule poffeffe a place above the ftarrie fkie!

· (qd) Tho. Twinc.

To his Love, that fent him a Ring wherein was gravde Let Reason rule.

SHALL reason rule where reason hath no right,
Nor never had? shall Cupid loose his landes,
His claim, his crown, his kingdome, name of might,
And yeeld himselfe to be in reasons bandes?
No, (friend) thy ring doth wil me thus in vaine;
Reason and love have ever yet beene twaine.

They are by kinde of fuch contrarie mould, As one mislikes the others lewde devise: What reason willes Cupido never would; Love never yet thought reason to be wise. To Cupid I my homage earst have donne: Let reason rule the harts that she hath wonne.

To his Friend Francis Th., leading his lyfe in the Countrie at his defire.

My Francis, whilft you breath your foming steede Athwart the fields, in peace to practife warre, In countrie whilst your keneld hounds doe feede,

Or in the wood for taken pray doe jarre; Whilst you with haukes the fielie foule doe slave. And take delight a quick retrive to have, To flee to marke, and heare the spanels baye, Wasting your age in pleasure passing brave; In citie I my youthfull yeares doe spende, At booke, perhaps, fometime to weare the day, Where man to man, not friend to friend, doth lende, With us is nought but pitch (my friend) and pay. Great store of coyne, but fewe enjoy the same: The owners holde it fast with lymed handes: We live by loffe, we play and practife game: Wee by and fell, the streate is all our landes. Well storde we are of erie needefull thing; Wood, water, coale, fleshe, fish we have ynow: (What lack you?) wyves and maides doe daylie fing, The horne is rife, it fticks on many a brow. But yet (I fay) the countrie hath no peere; The towne is but a toyle, and wearie lyfe: We like your countrie sportes (friend Francis) heere. The citie is a place of bate and ftrife: Wherefore I thinke thee wife and full of thrift That fledit the towne, and haft that bleffed gift.

To a Gentlewoman that alwayes willed him to weare Rosemarie (a tree that is alwayes greene) for hir sake, and in token of his goodwill to hir.

The greene that you did wish mee weare aye for your loove,
And on my helme a braunch to beare not to remoove,

Was ever you to have in minde, Whome Cupid hath my feere affignde.

As I in this have done your will,
and minde to doo;
So I request you to fulfill
my fansie too:
A greene and loving hart to have,
And this is all that I doe crave.

For if your flowring hart fhould chaunge his colour greene,
Or you at length a ladie ftraunge of mee be feene,
Then will my braunch, againft his ufe,
His colour chaunge for your refuse.

As winters force can not deface
this braunch his hue,
So let no chaunge of love difgrace
your friendship true:
You were mine owne, and so be still,
So shall we live and love our fill.

Then may I thinke my felfe to bee well recompenft,

For wearing of the tree that is fo well defenft

Against all weather that doth fall,

When waywarde winter spits his gall.

And when wee meete, to trie me true looke on my hed,
And I will crave an othe of you,
where faith be fled?
So fhall we both affured bee,
Both I of you, and you of mee.

An Epitaph of the Ladie Br.

STAIE (gentle friend) that paffeft by, and learne this lore of mee,
That mortall things doe live to die, and die againe to bee:
For daylie proufe hath daylie taught, and yet doth teache it plaine,

That all our fubstance comes to naught, and worldly welth is vaine.

No rawnfome may redeeme thy fleshe from lothsome lumpes of soyle;
The wormes will soone thy beautie freshe

with greedie gripe dispoyle.

I, that was earst of gentle bloud that never sufferd staine,

Have nothing but a winding shrowde in stead of all my gaine.

I twife was bound by folemne oth unto a loving make;

Yet twas my luck to burie both, and eke a thirde to take.

The joy that fourtie yeares had growne by those two husbands dayes,

In two yeares space was overthrowne, and altred fundrie wayes.

As luck would not allow my choice, fo death mislikte the same:

Those two agreed with common voyce my bondage to unframe.

The Lady (Br) quoth Fortune tho, hir worship shall not loose:

Then shee (quoth Death) shall have no mo, nor other husbande choose.

Thus did they both contend at once who mought the friendlift bee;

Thus Death and Fortune for the nonce did make my body free.

Pray, gentle friend, therefore for me to mightie Jove on hie;

For as I am fo thou shalt bee, fince thou dost live to die.

Trust never Fortunes sickle sate, but Vertue still retaine:

Thou mayst in time exchaunge estate, yet Vertue will remaine.

Of the time he first began to love, and after how he forewent the same.

Howe may it be that fnow and ife ingender heate?

Or how may glare and frost intife a fervent sweate?

Or how may fommer feafon make
of heate a colde?
[How may the fpring the leaves downe fhake,
and trees unfolde?
Though these too others seeme full rare,
To me no newes at all they are.

For I my felfe in winter tide,
when colde was rife,
Whote gleames of Cupid did abide,
and ftormes of ftrife.
In froftie weather I was warme,
and burning whot,
But when the bees and birds did fwarme,
full colde God wot:
In winter time began my loove,
Which I in fommer did remoove.

The affured promise of a constant Lover.

WHEN Phenix shall have many makes,
And sishes shun the silver lakes;
When woulfes and lambes yfeare shall play,
And Phœbus cease to shine by day;
When grasse on marble stone shall groe,
And everie man imbrace his soe;
When moles shall leave to dig the grounde,
And hares accorde with hatefull hounde;
When lawrell leaves shall loose their hue,
And men of Crete be counted true;
When Vulcan shall be colde as ise,

- Orcebus eake approved wife;
 When Pan shall passe Appollos skill,
 And sooles of fansies have their fill;
 When hawkes shall dread the sielie sowle,
 And men esteeme the nightish owle;
 When pearle shall be of little price,
 And golden vertue friend to vice;
 When fortune hath no chaunge in store,
- Then will I false and not before.

 Till all these monsters come to passe,
 I am Timetes as I was.
 - My love as long as lyfe fhall laft,
 Not forcing any fortunes blaft.
 No threat, nor thraldome shall prevaile
 To caufe my fayth one jote to faile,
 But as I was, fo will I bee,
 A-lover and a friend to thee.

The Pine to the Mariner.

O MAN of little wit!

What meanes this frantick fit,
To make thy ship of mee

That am a flender tree,
Whome erie blaft that blowes

Full lightly overthrowes?
Doth this not moove thy minde,

That rage of roring winde]
Did beate my boughes agood

When earft I grue in wood?
How can I here avoyde

The foe that there anoyde?

Thinkst thou now I am made a vessell for thy trade, I shall be more at ease Amid the flasshing seas? I feare, if Æole frowne, Both thou and I shall drowne.

Againe, otherwise.

A VASSELL to the winde when earft I grew in wood, How shall I favour finde now fleeting in the flood? For there whilft reaching rootes did holde I thought I mought be fomewhat bolde. But now that I am cut, and framde another way, And to this practife put in daunger erie day, I feare the force of cruell foe, my ribbes are thin, my fides be lowe. But if thou venter life. then I will hazard lim: For thee is all my griefe, for lightly I shall fwim: Though top and tackle all be torne, yet I aloft the furge am borne.

To an olde Gentlewoman that painted hir face.

LEAVE off, good Beroe, now to fleeke thy fhrivled fkin,

For Hecubes face will never be as Helens hue hath bin.

Let beautie go with youth, renownce the glofing glaffe,

Take booke in hande: that feemely rofe is woxen withred graffe.

Remoove thy pecocks plumes, thou cranck and curious dame:

To other trulls of tender yeares refigne the flagge of fame.

Of one that had a great Nofe.

STANDE with thy nose against the funne with open chaps,
And by thy teeth we shall discerne what tis a clock, perhaps.

Of one whose Nose was greater than his hand.

O Proclus! tis in vaine
that thou about doft ftande,
For well I fee thou mindfte to wipe
thy nares with thy hande.
Truth is, that though thou be
fowle fifted out of frame,
Yet doth this toffing nofe of thine
in bigneffe paffe the fame.
When neezing thou on Jove
for fuccour feemfte to crie,

Thou canst not heare; the nose debarres the noyse to eare to flie,

It beateth back the sounde:
 it standes in middle place

Twixt eare and mouth, but sure it castes a shade to all the face.

Of a Nightingale that flue to Colche to fit abroode.

THOU fielie foule, what meanes this foolish paine, To flie to Colche too hatch thy chickins there? A mother thou mayst hap returne againe, Medæa will destroie thy broode I feare; For shee that spared not to spoile hir owne, Wil she stand friend to sowles that are unknowne?

Againe of the Nightingale.

What (Philomela) meanes this fond intent, To hatch thy broode in fell Medæas lap? What! doste thou hope hir rigor will relent Towarde thy babes, that gave hir owne no pap, But slue them all at once, and at a clap? I wote not what thou meanste: unlesse that shee Should kill thy brats too make the mother free.

Of a contrarie mariage.

An aged trot and tough did marrie with a lad:

Againe, a gallant girle, to
hir fpouse a graybeard had:
A monstrous match (God wote)!
for others she doth wed:
And he bestowes his seede on ground
that lets it take no hed.
In fayth, a foolish choyce,
for neither hath his wishe;
For tone doth lack his wife, and tother seedes on filthie sishe.

Of Dronkennesse.

AT night, when ale is in, like friends we part to bed; In morrow gray, when ale is out, then hatred is in hed.

Againe of Dronkennesse.

MEN having quaft
are friendly overnight;
In dawning drie,
a man too man a fpright.

Of the picture of a vaine Rhetorician.

THIS Rufe his table is,
can nothing be more true:
If Rufus holde his peace, this peece
and he are one to vewe.

Of the fond discord of the two Theban brothers, Octeocles and Polynices.

In death you part the fire, you cut the cruell flame; If so you had devided Thebes, you might enjoyde the same.

Of a marvellous deformed man.

To drawe the minde in table to the fight
Is hard; to paint the lims is counted light:
But now in thee these two are nothing so,
For Nature splayes thy minde to open show.
We see by proofe of thy unthriftie deedes,
The covert kinde from whence this filth proceedes;
But who can paint those shapelesse lims of thine,
When eche to vewe thy carcasse doth repine?

A Myrrour of the fall of Pride.

SOMETIME the giants did rebell against the mightie Jove;
They thought in Olymp Mount to dwell, and long for that they strove.
A hundred handes eche monster had by course of curssed kinde:
A stock so stubborne and so mad
I no where else can finde.
Dame Tellus was their mother thought of pleasant poets all,

By whome they would have brought to nought the feate Olympicall.

First Briareus began the broyle, who tooke a hill in hand,

And layde it on another foyle that thereabout did ftand;

Still calling on his monstrous mates, exhorting them the same,

And with the reaft the gnuffe debates how flately Gods to tame.

Offa was layde on Pyndus back, and Pelion on hie:

And thus they thought to bring to fack in time the ftarrie skie.

They did envie the Gods the place by nature them affigude,

And thought it meeter for a race which Tellus bred by kinde.

They would have had the highest throne that Jove had long possest;

And downe they would the Gods have throwne and princely powre repreft.

At length the route began to rore in making dreadfull found,

The like was never heard before to heaven from the ground.

Then Jupiter began to gaze and looke about the fkie,

And all the Gods were in a maze, the monfters were fo nie.

They callde a counfaile then in hafte, the Gods affembled tho,

And common fentence was at laft, that mightie Jove should throw His thunderbolt that Vulcan lame

prepared for the nonce,

Whereby he might eftfoone make tame the haughtie giants bones.

Then might you fee the mountaines fall, and hill from hill depart,

And monfters in the valley crawle whome thunder did fubvart.

The mountaines were not rayfde fo quick, but downe they fell as faft;

And giants in a cluster thick to Tellus fell at laft.

Such plagues had pride in former time, the Gods abhorred fo

That mortall men fhould dare to clime the heavens hie to know.

And not alone the heavenly route the loftic lookes correct

Of fuch as prowdly go about their empire to reject;

But other Gods of meaner flate (of whome the poets write)

Such pievish pecocks pride doe hate, and feeke revenge by might.

The grifly God whome flouds obay, and drenching feas imbrace,

Who in the waters beares the fway where Nereus flewes his face;

Whome forceth he by furge of feas into Charybdis clives,

Or whome doth Neptune most disease, or whome to Scylla drives?

Not him that beares his failes alowe, nor him that keepes the shoare,

Ne yet the bargeman that doth rowe with long and limber oare:

Not those that haunt the haven sure and port of perill voide,

They cannot Neptunes wrath procure the chanell that avoide,

But those that voide of carck and care and feare of Neptunes yre,

Doe hoise their failes, and never spare to further their defyre,

And doe receive whole gales of winde from mighty Æole fent:

-Those, those are they by course of kinde that Neptune makes repent.

He fpoiles the failes, and tackle teares, the maft it goes to wrack;

The ribbes they rent, the fhipmen feares when gables gin to crack.

Then whereto ferves the pilats pride that hoyft his failes fo hie?

And where is he that fearde no tide, nor threatning from the skie?

His pride procurde his fearefull fate, and fortune that befell,

Which Neptune most of all doth hate, as shipmen know right well.

Let giants fall and fhipmens cafe a myrrour be, therefore, To fuch as feeke to hie a place, for like shall be their lore.

Narciffus may example bee and myrrour to the prowde,

By whome they may most plainly fee how pride hath beene allowde.

His beautie brave fuch loftie cheere in him did breede in time,

That gods themselves agreeved were with such a haynous crime.

No looving laffe might him allure, nor Dians nymphes at all,

By ought his friendship might procure: but note ye well his fall.

In fommer time, as fortune would, his fortune was to bee

In open fielde, where no man could his blazing beautic fee.

At length, in raunging to and fro, his fortune was to finde

A fountaine freshe that there did flow, as Gods (I think) affinde.

He thought forthwith his thirst to quent by pleasant trauvaile gote,

But there he found, or ere he went, a greater drougth, God wote.

In stooping downe to take the taste of christall waters theare,

(Unhappie boy) had fpide at laft a little boy appeare;

Whose beautie brave, and liking looke, his fansie please fo well,

That there himfelfe the boy forfooke, and to a frensie fell.

He had that he fo fondly loovde, and yet it was not fo;

And from himselfe he was remoovde that thence did never go.

He was the boy that tooke the vewe, he was the boy espide,

And being both he neither knewe; fuch was the ende of pride.

Then gan he shed his teares adowne, then gan he make his plaint,

And then at length he fell to grounde, fore feebled all with faint.

His fpirite, that earft fo prowde was feene, converted into winde,

-But of his corps a flower greene ftill there abode behinde.

Narciffus callde (as poets tell) as Narciffe was before:

In token that to Narciffe fell this most unhappie lore.

I could recite the histories of many other moe,

Whome pievish pride the miseries of fortune forst to knowe.

But I of purpose will let passe Apollos bastard sonne,

Who Phaeton ycleped was when first his fame begonne:

I minde not to rehearfe at all the charge he tooke in hande;

I wittingly omit his fall into Eridan fande;

But this I fay affuredly, had it not beene for pride,

The charret had not gone awrie

though Phaeton were guide: But glorie vaine and want of skill enforste his haughtie hart,

Of Phœbe to crave to worke his will in ruling Phœbus cart.

The like attempt tooke Icarus, from Creta that did flie

By wings of wax with Dedalus, when Icar flue to hie.

His fathers words prevailed not, nor leffon taught before,

Till fained fethers were fo whot, as he could flie no more.

For want of wings then gan he clap his breaft with open armes,

Till downe he fell; fuch was his hap, whose pride procurde his harmes.

When wraftling windes, from Æole fent, befight themselves so long,

That East against the West is bent, and North puts South to wrong,

Then may you heare the pine to crack that beares his hed so hie.

And loftie lugs go then to wrack which feeme to touch the fkie.

When Jove flings downe his thundring bolts our vices to redreffe,

They batter downe the highest holts, and touch not once the leffe.

The cotte is furer than the hall in proofe we daylie fee;

For highest things doe soonest fall from their felicitee.

What makes the Phaenix flame with fire, a birde fo rare in fight?

What caufeth him not to retire from Phæbus burning light?

In faith, if he woulde live belowe, as birds Dame Nature tought,

The Efterlings should never knowe their Phœnix burnt fo oft.

All ye, therefore, that furetie loove, and would not have a fall,

From you the peacocks pride remoove, and trust not Fortunes ball.

Let Phætons fate be fearde of you, and Icars lot also:

Remember that the pine doth rue that he fo high doth grow.

Of the Clock and the Cock.

GOOD reason thou allow one letter more to mee, Than to the cock; for cocks doe sleepe when clocks doe wake for thee.

Of a Tayler.

THOUGH tayler cut thy garment out of frame, And ftrie thy ftuffe by fowing it amis, Yet must we say the tayler makes the same: To make and marre is one with them ywis.

The Lover, finding his Love flitted from wonted troth, leaves to write in prayse of hir.

THOUGH cleane contrarie be my verse to those I wrote before,

Yet let not retchlesse doome accuse my wandring wits the more.

As time doth fhape and fhew (they fay) fo ought our ftile to frame;

In fommer funne we neede no fire, yet winter afketh flame:

So I that earst found cause of sport and matter to rejoyce,

If force by fansie was procurde to use a gladsome voyce.

And now fince deepe difpaire hath drencht my hope, I will affay

To turne my tune and chaunge my cheere, and leave my woonted lay.

Not farre unlike the chirping foule in fommer that doth fing,

And during winter hides his head till next returne of fpring.

They fay, when altred is the cause of sorce effect doth sue.

As new repaire of better bloud doth cause a hawke to mue.

Though Ætna burne by kindly course and belke out fire with sume,

When fulpher vaine is cleane extinct the fire will confume.

Whereby I may conclude aright that eche effect must bee

As is his cause: so fruite ensues the nature of the tree.

Then I of force must shape my stile; as matter is I write,

Unleffe I would be thought to match a fawcon with a kite.

When winde and wave at fea doe rore, that barck is in diffresse,

Then time requires that shipmen should their tackles all addresse:

Then crooked ancors must be cast the shaken ship to stay

From fincking fands, and ruthleffe rocks that shipmen oft affray.

No fooner Triton blowes his trumpe, and fwolen waters quailes,

And Æole makes his windes retire, but hoyfe they up the failes:

Then fleete they forward in the floud, then cut they waves in twaine,

Then launch they on (as earft they did) with all their might and maine.

So I hereafter must affay my woonted tune to chaunge As time requires, and I, in love, shall finde my ladie straunge. If the be one of Crefids crue and fwarve hir former heft. No Lucrece must I terme hir then, for that were but a jest: Or if the false hir fixed fayth, Ulyffes wives renowne Unfitting is for hir whofe love endureth but a stowne. Wherefore, I will as time shall shape, and she hir love prolong, Applie my pen, and tell the troth as best I may in fong.

He forrowes other to have the fruites of his service.

Some men would looke to have a recompence of paine,
And reafon wills it fo to be,
unleffe we lift to faine:
Some would expect for love to have unfained hart,
And think it but a fit reward for fuch a good defart:
But I (unhappie wight) that fpend my love in vaine,
Doe feeke for fuccour at hir hands while other get the gaine.

As thirstie ground doth gape to swallow in the shoure,

Even fo fare I, poore Harpalus, whome Cupids paines devoure.

I holde the hive in hande, and paine my felfe thereby,

While other eate the hidden foode that are not halfe fo dry.

I plough the foyle with paine, and cast my seede thereon,

And other come that sheare the sheaves, and laugh when I am gon.

Mine is the winters toile, and theirs the fommers gaine;

The harvest falles out too their share that felt no part of paine.

I beare the pinching yoke and burden on my back,

And other drive when I must draw, and thus I go to wrack.

I fast when other feede,

I thirst when other drinck;

I mourne when they triumph for joy, they fwim when I must finck.

They have the hoped gaine, whiles I the loffe indure;

They whole at hart, whilft I my griefe by no meanes can recure.

They shrowd themselves in shade,
I sit in open sunne;

They leape as lambes in luftie leaze,
I lie as one undunne.

They taste their nightly rest, my troubled head doth wake; I tosse and turne from side to side,

while they their pleafure take.

I would, but they enjoy;

I crave that is debard;

They have: what will you more I fay? their fervice is prefard.

Thus I procure my woe

by framing them their joy;

In feeking how to falve my fore,
I breede my chiefe annoy.

So sheepe with wooll are clad,

their maifters have the gaine; So birds doe builde their nefts on brakes,

and put themfelves to paine, But other tafte the fruite

when fo their broode is hatcht:

The neft remaines, the birds are gone, the chickens are dispatcht.

So bees for honnie toile in fleeing too and fro,

And fillie wretches take great paines for whome they little know.

I think it is procurde

by griefly Gods above,

That fome should gape, and other gaine the fruit of others love.

But fure if womans will be forger of my wo,

And not the mightie Gods ordaine my definie to be for

Then must I needes complaine, and curffe their cruell kinde, That in requitall of good will doe shew themselves unkinde.

But whether be the caufe, hereafter I intende

To fawne on them that force on mee, and bowe when other bende.

This one abuse shall make me take the better heede

On whome I fixe my fansie fast, or make a friend in deede.

The Lover, feeing himselfe abusde, renounceth Love.

THOUGH men account it shame and folly to repent,

Or grutcht good will that was bestowde when nought save faith was ment,

Yet can they not denie but if the knot be burft,

Then may we shew our felves unkinde that friendly were at furst.

He runnes an endlesse race that never turnes againe,

And he a fonded lover is that waftes his love in vaine.

Nought can he judge of hues, that can not fee when guile,

In place of friendship, cloakes hir selfe in forme of forged wile:

And he that plainely fees
the trap before his eie,
And will not shun from perill, tis

and will not snun from perill, us no matter though he die.

I tell my tale by proufe,
I fpeake it not by rot:

To love a fubtile laffe of late was fallen to my lot;

On whome I fet fuch ftore, fuch comfort and delight,

As life it was to fee hir face, a death to want hir fight.

So I might doe the thing that might abridge hir fmart,

And bannish all annoy that grue by froward fortunes art,

What daunger would I dread, or perill feeme to shun?

None that is here bylow on earth, or fubject to the fun.

To shew my felfe a friend to hir, I was my foe;

She was the onely idoll whome I honorde here belowe.

This is (thought I) the fame that was Ulyffes wife,

Who, in the absence of hir make, did leade a dolefull life:

Or else tis she at least whome Tarquyn did enforce,

By beaftly rape with piercing fworde, fo to fordoe hir corfe.

But fuch is hir abufe, fo frowarde eke hir grace,

As love it may no longer laft, fince friendship hides his face.

I did not well advise,

I built on fincking fande,

And when I thought she loovde me best, shee bore me but in hande:

Where I had thought a porte and haven fure to bee.

There found I hap and dreadfull death, as gazers on may fee.

As mouse that treades the trap in hope to finde repast,

And bites the bread that breedes his bane, and is intrapped fast,

Like was my dolefull cafe that fed upon my wo,

Till now repentance willes mee all fuch fanfies to forgo.

And (thanked be good hap) now once againe I fleete

And fwim aloft, that fanck of late fast hampred by the feete.

Now is my fortune good, fo fortune graunt it last

And I as happie as the best now stormic cloudes are past.

I finde the bottom firme and stable where I passe,

There are no haughtie rocks at hande, ne yet no ground of glaffe.

Good ancor holde I have,
fo I may use it still,
I am no more a bounden thrall,
but free I live at will.
But that which most torments
my minde, and reaves my joy,
Is, for I servde a fickle wench
that bred mee this annoy;
But, Gods, forgive my guilt
and time mispent before,
And I will be a fillie sot
of Cupids crue no more.

Against the jelous heads that alwayes have Lovers in suspect.

When jelous Juno faw hir mightie make
Had Iö turnde into a brutish kinde,
More covertly of hir his lust to take,
To work hir will, and all his frawde to finde,
She cravde the cowe in gift at Jove his hande,
Who could not well his sisters sute withstande.
When yeelded was hir boone, and hest fulfillde,
To Argus charge committed was the cowe,
For he could wake so well, him Juno willde
To watch the beast with never sleeping browe:
With hundreth eies that hatefull hierds hed
Was deckt; som watcht when som to sleepe were led.
So warded he by day, so wakte by night,
And did Dame Junos will accomplish so,

As neither Jove might once delude his fight,

Nor Iö part hir pointed pasture fro: His staring eies on Iö still were bent, He markt hir march, and sude hir as she went.

Till Jove at length, to ruth and pittie moovde
To fee the fpitefull hate that Argus bare
To hir whome he fo fervently had loovde,
And who for him abode fuch endlesse care,
His fethred sonne Cylenus sent from skies
To reave the carefull clowne his watchfull eies.

Who, to fulfill his lorde and fathers heft, Tooke charmed rod in hande and pipe to play, And gyrt him with a fworde as lykte him beft, And to the fielde he flue, where Argus laye, Difguifed like a fhepherd in his weede, That he his purpose might the better speede.

When eche had other falued in his fort,
To-brag upon his pipe the clowne begoon,
And fayde, that for that noyfe and gallant fport
All other mirthes and maygames he would fhoon:
His only joy was on his pipe to playe;
And then to blow the ruftick did affaye.

In fine, when Argus had his cunning flowde, And eche to other chatted had a fpace Of this and that as was befalne abrode, Mercurius tooke his pipe from out his cafe, And thereon playde hee fo paffing well, As most of Argus eies to slumber fell.

And as they flept with charmed rod he stroke The drowsie dolt to keepe him in that plight, And playde so long till time he did provoke All Argus eies to byd the beast god night:

Whome when he fawe in fuch a flumber led, He stole the cowe, and swapt of Argus hed.

Such was the fine of his dispitous hate, Such was the boone and guerdon of his hire, And all the good the carefull coward gate For seeking to debarre the Gods desire; A fit reward for such a good desart: The cowarde might have playde a wifer part.

God fende the lyke, and worfe, to fuch as ufe (As Argus did) with ever waking eie
The blameleffe fort of lovers to abufe;
That alwayes readie are and preft to prie
The purpose to bewray, and covert toyes
Of faithfull friends, and barre their bliffefull joyes.

I trust there will be found, in time of neede, A Mercurie with charmed twig in hand, And pleasaunt pipe, their waking eies to seede With drowsie dumps, their purpose to withstand; That jealous heads may learne to be wies, For seare they lose (as Argus did) their eies.

For Cupid takes disdaine and scorne to see His thralls abused in such unseemely fort, Who seeke no greedie gaine nor filthie see, But pleasant play, and Venus sugred sport: A slender hire (God wote) to quite the paine That lovers bide, or they their love attaine.

That it is hurtfull to conceale secrets from our Friendes.

A SMART in filence kept (as Ovid doth expresse)

Doth more torment the payned man than him that feekes redreffe.

For then it respite takes, and leysure to procure

Such mischiefe as for want of helpe the longer doth endure.

As if thou fet no falve

where ranckleth fwelling fore,

It will in further processe paine, and thee torment the more.

I fundrie times have feene

a wound that earft was fmall,

In time for want of furgions fight to greater mischiefe fall:

And eke the balefull blowe, fo grievous that was thought,

Full quickly curde by furgions fleight,

if he were quickly fought.

So fareth it by man,

that keepes in covert breaft

The pinching paine that breedes within, increasing great unreast:

That never will disclose

the fecret of his hart,

But rather fuffer fervent fits, and deeper piercing fmart.

For why was friendship founde and quickly put in ure,

But that th' one of thothers helpe fhould thinke himfelfe full fure?

Why are they like in minde, and one in erie part?

Why are they twoo in bodies twaine, poffeffing but one hart?

And why doth one mislike that so offendes his feere,

But that they two are one in deede it plainely might appeare?

Did Tullie ever dreade his fecrets to difclofe

To Atticus, his loving friende, in whome he did repose

Such credit and fuch truft, and in himfelfe he might,

To whome full oft with painfull pen this Tullie did indight?

What ever Thefeus thought Perythous coulde tell,

With wearie travell that purfude his loving friende to hell.

Was Damon daintie founde to Pythias at all,

For whome he woulde with Tyran staide, as pledge to live in thrall?

In Pylades was nought but that Orestes knewe,

Who privie was from time to time how care or comfort grewe.

Gysippus selt no griese

but Titus boade the fame, And where that Titus founde reliefe,

their Gyfippe had his gaine.

When Lælius did laugh, then Scipio did joy; And what Menetus fonne mislikte, Achylles did annov.

Æurialus his thoughts and fecrets of his hart

To Nyfus would declare at large, were they of joy or fmart.

All these conjoined were in surest league of loove;

Whome neyther fortune, good or bad, nor death might once remoove.

They would not thinke in minde, nor practife that at all,

But to that fame their truftic friends they would in counfell call.

All those, therefore, that wishe their inward paines redresse,

-Must to their most assured friend it outwardly expresse.

So may they chaunce to finde a falve for fecret fore,

Which otherwife, in covert kept, will foone increase to more.

Of the divers and contrarie passions and affections of his Love.

To phifick those that long have gone and spent their time in griefe,
Affirme that pacients in their paines
will shun their best reliefe.

They will refuse the tysants taste, and wholesome drinkes despife,

Which to recure difeases fell phisitions did devise:

But when they be debard the fame, which fo they fhunde before,

They crie and call for tyfants then, as foveraigne for their fore.

Such is the wayward guife of those with pangues that are opprest;

They wish for that they never had, and shun that they possess.

I may to them right well compare the lovers divers thought,

That likes, and then mislikes againe that they long earst had fought.

They will not, when they may, enjoy their hearts defired choife:

They then defie, they then deteft with lowde and lothfome voice.

They will refuse when time doth ferve; but when such time is gone,

They figh and schreach with mournefull crie, and make a ruthfull mone.

They little think that time hath wings, or knoweth how to flie;

They hope to have it still at hande that swiftly passeth bie.

They thinke that time will tarie them, and for their fanfie ftay,

But time in little time is gone; it fleeteth fast away.

So flandes the foole by fleeting floud, and looketh for a turne:

But river runnes and ftill will run, and never shape returne.

What! doe they hope that beauties glaffe will ftill continue bright?

Nay, when the day is gone and past, by course appeares the night.

For crooked age his woonted trade is for to plough the face

With wrinckled furrowes, that before was chiefe of beauties grace.

Perhaps they thinke that men are mad, and once intrapt in love,

Will never ftrive to breake the fnare, nor never to remove.

No fowler that had wylie wit, but will forefee fuch hap,

That birds will alway buske and bate, and scape the fowlers trap.

And if their fortune favor fo, then who doth mount fo hie

As those that guilefull pitfall tooke prepared for to die?

What fish doth fleete fo fast as that which lately hangde on hooke?

By happie hap if he efcape, he will not backwarde looke.

Take time, therefore, thou foolifh feeme, whilft time doth ferve fo well;

For time away as fast doth flee as any found of bell:

And thou, perhaps, in after time, when time is past and gone, Shall lie lamenting losse of time, as colde as any stone.

Yet were thou better take thy time whilst yet thy beautie serves;

For beautie as the flower fades whome lack of Phœbus sterves.

Of Dido and the truth of hir death.

I, DIDO, and the queene of Carthage ground, Whose lims thou seeft so lively set to sight, Such one I was, but never to be found So farre in love as Vergill seemes to wright, I livde not so in lust and sowle delight.

For neither he that wandring Duke of Troie Knewe mee, nor yet at Lybie lande arivde; But to escape Iarbos that did noie Mee fore, of lyfe my carcasse I deprivde, To keepe my hest that he would tho have rivde.

No ftorme of love, or dolour made me die: I flue my felfe to fave my fheete of fhame Wherein good Sycheus wrapped me perdie. Then, Vergill, then, the greater be thy blame, That fo by love doft breede my fowle defame.

Of Venus in Armour.

IN complete [armour] Pallas faw the ladie Venus ftande:

Who faid, let Paris now be judge; encounter we with hande.
Replide the Goddeffe: what!
fcornfte thou in armour mee,
That naked earft in Ida Mount
fo foylde and conquerde thee?

Of a Hare complayning of the hatred of Dogs.

The fcenting hounds purfude
the haftie hare of foote:
The fielie beaft to fcape the dogs
did jumpe upon a roote.
The rotten fcrag it burft,
from cliffe to feas he fell;
Then cride the hare: unhappie mee!
for now perceive I well,
Both lande and fea purfue
and hate the hurtleffe hare;
And eake the dogged fkies aloft,
if fo the dog be thare.

To one that painted Eccho.

Thou witles wight, what meanes this mad intent To draw my face and forme, unknowne to thee? What meanst thou so for to molesten mee, Whome never eie behelde, nor man could see? Daughter to talking tongue and ayre am I; My mother is nothing when things are waide:

I am a voyce without the bodies aide.

When all the tale is tolde and fentence faide,

Then I recite the latter worde afreshe
In mocking fort and counterfayting wies:

Within your eares my chiefest harbour lies;
There doe I woonne, not seene with mortall eies.

And more to tell and farther to proceede,
I Eccho height of men below in grounde:
If thou wilt draw my counterfait in deede,
Then must thou paint (O painter) but a found.

To a cruell Dame for grace and pittie.

As I doe lack the fkill to show my faithfull hart, So doe you want good will too rue your lovers fmart. The greater is my fire, the leffer is your heate; The more that I defire, the leffe you feeme to fweate. O! quench not fo the coale of this my faithfull flame With nayes, thou frowarde foule, let yeas increase the same. Let us at length agree, whome Cupid made by law Eche others friend to bee in fanfies yoke to draw. If I doe plaie my part at any time amis,

Then doe bestowe thy hart
where greater friendship is:
But if in true good will
I beare my felfe upright,
Let mee enjoy thee still,
my fervice to requight.
Go thou, my fierie dart
of scalding whote desire,
To pierce hir ysie hart,
and set hir brest on fire,

That I may both prolong
my painefull pyning dayes,
And eke avendge hir wrong

that paine for pleafure payes.

I never fawe the ftone
but often drops would waft,

Nor dame but daylie mone would make hir yeelde at laft.

To a Gentlewoman from whome he tooke a Ring.

WHAT needes this frowning face?
what meanes your looke fo coye?
Is all this for a ring,
a trifle and a toye?
What though I reft your ring,
I tooke it not to keepe;

Therefore you neede the leffe in fuch dispite to weepe:

For Cupid shall be judge and umpire in this case,

Or who by hap fhall next approache into this place.

You tooke from mee my hart, I caught from you a ring;

Whose is the greatest losse? where ought the griefe to spring?

Keepe you as well my hart, as I will keepe your ring,

And you shall judge at last that you have lost nothing.

For if a friendly hart, fo fluft with flaide loove,

In value doe not paffe the ring, you may reproove

The reaving of the fame: and I of force must fay

That I deferved the blame who tooke your ring away.

But what if you doe wreake your malice on my hart?

Then give mee leave to thinke you guiltie for your part;

And when fo ere I yeelde to you your ring againe,

Reftore me vp my hart that now you put to paine.

For fo we both be pleafde, to fay we may be bolde

That neyther to the loffe of us hath bought or folde.

The Lover blames his Tongue, that failed to utter his fute in time of neede.

FORCAUSE I ftill preferde the truth before Shameleffe untruth, and lothfome leefings lore, I finde my felfe yll recompenst therefore Off thee my Tongue.

For good defert and guiding thee aright,
That thou for aye mightft live devoide of fpight,
I reape but thame, and lack my chiefe delight
For filence kept.

When happie hap by hap advaunft my cafe, And brought mee to my Ladie, face to face, Where I hir corps in fafetie might imbrace,

Thou heldft thy peace.

Thou madfte my voyce to cleave amids my throte, And fute to cease unluckylie (God wote) Thou wouldst not speake, tho you hadst quite sorgote My harts behest.

My hart by thee fuspected was of guile,
For cause thou ceast to use a loving stile,
And wordes to forge and frame with finest file
As lovers woont.

Thou madfte my bloud fro paled face to ftart, And flie to feeke fome fuccor of the hart, That wounded was long earft with dreadfull dart Off Cupids bowe.

And thou, as colde as any marble ftone,
When from my face the chillie bloud was gone,
Couldft not devife the way to make my mone
By wordes appeare.

And (yee my teares) that woonted were to flowe And ftreamed adowne as fast as thawed snowe, Were stopt, as then yee had no powre to showe A lovers sute.

My fighes that earft were woont to dim the Skie, And cause a sume by force of flame to flie, Were tho as flack, as Welles, of weeping drie

Too showe my love.

The hart that laie incombred all within Had fainted quite, had not by lookes ybin: For they declarde the cafe my hart was in By tongues untroth.

That all things are as they are used.

Was never ought, by Natures art Or cunning skill, so wisely wrought, But man by practice might convart Too worfer use then Nature thought: Ne yet was ever thing fo ill, Or may be of fo fmall a prife, But man may better it by skill, And chaunge his fort by founde advise. So that by proofe it may be feene That all things are as is their use, And man may alter Nature cleene. And things corrupt by his abuse. What better may be founde than flame, Too Nature that doth fuccor paie? Yet we doe oft abuse the same In bringing buildings to decaie.

For those that minde to put in ure Their malice, moovde to wrath and ire, To wreake their mischiefe, will be sure Too spill and spoyle thy house with fire. So Phifick, that doth ferve for eafe And to recure the grieved foule, The painefull patient may difeafe, And make him fick that earft was whole. The true man and the theefe are leeke. For fworde doth ferve them both at neede, Save one by it doth fafetie feeke, And th' other of the spoile to speede. As law and learning doth redreffe That otherwife would go to wrack, Even fo doth it oft times oppresse And bring the true man to the rack. Though poyfon paine the drinker fore By boyling in his fainting breaft, Yet is it not refused therefore. For cause sometime it breedeth reast; And mixt with medicines of proofe According to Machaons arte, Doth ferve right well for our behoofe, And fuccor fends to dying harte. Yet these and other things were made By Nature for the better ufe, But we of custome take a trade By wilfull will them to abuse. So nothing is by kinde fo voide Of vice, and with such vertue fraught, But it by us may be anoide, And brought in trackt of time too naught.

Againe there is not that fo ill
Bylowe the lampe of Phœbus light,
But man may better, if he will
Applie his wit to make it right.

The Lover excuseth himselfe for renowncing his Love and Ladie, imputing the same to his fate and constellation.

THOUGH Dydo blamde Æneas truth for leaving Carthage shore,

Where he well entertainde had beene, and like a Prince before:

Though Thefeus were unthriftie thought and of a cruell race,

That in rewarde of death escapte by Aryadnas lace,

Amid the defart woods fo wilde his looving laffe forfooke,

Whome by good hap and luckie lore the drowfie Bacchus tooke.

Yet if the Judges in this case their verdit yeelde aright,

Nor Theseus nor Æneas fact deserve such endlesse spight,

As wayward women, ftirde to wrath, beare fixed fast in minde,

Still feeking wayes to wreake their yre upon Æneas kinde;

For neither lack of liking love, nor hope of greater gaine, Nor fickle fanfies force us men to breake off friendships chaine.

They loth not that they loovde before, they hate not things posses;

Some other weightie cause they have of chaunge, as may be gest.

And waying with my felfe eche one,
I can none fitter finde,

Than that to men fuch bleffed hap is by the Gods affigude.

The golden starres that guide their age, and planets will them fo,

And Gods (the rulers of their race) procure them to forgo

Their forged faith and plighted truth, with promife made fo fure,

That is too feeming ftrong as fteele, and likely to endure.

For did not mightie Jove himfelfe the fwift Cyllenus fende,

To will the Troyan Prince in hafte into Italia bende,

And leave the lyked lande fo well, and Carthage queene forfake,

That made him owner of hir hart, and all that shee could make?

And fuch was Thefeus lot, perdie, fo hard the maydens hap,

That shee in defart should be left and caught in Bacchus trap.

Should Jason be proclaimde and cride a traitor to the skies,

For that he Medea left at laft, by whome he wan the Flife?

No; fuch was Oetes daughters chaunce in cradle hir affignde,

And Jasons birthstarre forst the Greeke to showe himselse vnkinde.

For if rewardes might binde fo faft, and knit the knot fo fure,

Their faith (no doubt) and lincked love fhould then of force endure:

For Dido gave him Carthage kayes, the wealth, and foile withall:

Those other two preserved their lives that else had live in thrall.

Then fithens ftreaming ftarres procure, and fatall powers agree,

And ftawled Gods doe condifiend that I my friendship flee,

And reave your bells, and caft you off to live in haggards wies,

That for no private stale doe care, but love to range the skies,

I must not seeme then to rebell, nor secret treason sorge,

But chaunge my choyce, and leave my loove, and fansies fonde disgorge.

I crave of Cupid, lorde of love, a pardon for the fame,

For that I now reject his lawes, and quite renownce his game.

Of Ladie Venus, that having lost hir sonne Cupid, God of Love, and desirous to understand of him againe, declares, by the way, the nature of Love and Affections of the same, by pretie discription as followeth.

WHAT time the ladie Venus fought hir little fonne, That Cupid hight, and found him not, she thus begonne. My friends (quoth she) if any chaunce in open streete. Or croffing pathes, that wandring amorous elfe to meete, That runnagate (I fay) is mine: who fo by hap Shall first bring tidings of the boy, in Venus lap Is fure to fit, and have, in price of taken paine, A fugred kiffe. But he that brings him home againe, A buffe. Yea, not a buffe alone doubtleffe shall have, But like a friend I will entreate him paffing brave. I tell you tis a proper youth. Marke every lim And member of my ftraid fonne that is fo trim. Not fallow white his bodie is, but like to flame; A fierce and fierie roling eie fets out the fame: A mischievous wylie hart in breast the boy doth beare, But yet his wordes are honnie like and fweete to eare. His talking tongue and meaning minde afunder goe: Smooth filed stile for little cost he will bestowe. But being once inflamde with ire and raging wrath, A cruell canckred dogged hart the urchin hath. False foxely subtile boy, and glosing lying lad, He fports to outward fight, but inward chafes like mad. A curled fconce he hath, with angrie frowning brow; A little hand, yet dart a cruell way can throwe.

To fhadie Acheron fometime he flings the fame, And deepest damp of hollow hell those impes to tame. Upon his carkaffe not a cloth, but naked hee Of garments goes; his minde is wrapt, and not to fee. Much like a fetbred foule he flies, and wags his wings, Now here now there: ye man fomtime this mifer wrings. Sometimes againe the lasse to love he doth enforce: Of neither kind, nor man nor maid, he hath remorce. A little bow the boy doth beare in tender hande, And in the fame an arrow nockt to ftring doth ftand: A flender shaft, yet fuch a one as farre will flie. And being fhot from Cupids bow will reach the fkie: A pretie golden quiver hangs there albehinde Upon his back, wherein who fo doth looke, fhall finde A fort of sharpe and lurching shafts, unhappie boy, Wherewith his ladie mother eke he doth annoy Sometimes: but most of all the foolish fretting elfe In cruell wife doth cruelly torment and vex himfelfe. Doe beate the boy, and spare him not at all, if thou On him doe chaunce to light: although from childish brow And moysted eies the trickling teares like flouds distill, Beleeve him not, for chiefly then beguile he will. Not if he fmile unlose his pyniond armes, take heede, With pleafant honie words though he thine eares doe feede, And crave a kiffe: beware thou kiffe him not at all, For in his lips vile venom lurcks, and bittér gall. Or if with friendly face he feeme to yeelde his bow And fhafts to thee, his proferde gifts (my friend) forgo: Touch not with tender hand the fubtile flattring Dart Of Love, for feare the fire thereof doe make thee fmart.

Where this that I have fayde be true, Yee Lovers, I appeale to you: For ye doe knowe Cupidos toyes, Yee feele his fmarts, yee taste his joyes. A fickle foolish God to serve I tearme him, as he doth deserve.

Of the cruell hatred of Stepmothers.

THE Sonne in lawe, his Stepdame being dead, Began hir hierce with garlands to commende: Meanewhile there fell a frone upon his head From out the tombe that brought the boy abed; A proofe that Stepdames hate hath never ende.

Againe.

GLAD was the Sonne of frowning Beldams death,
To witnesse joy to deck hir tomb gan trudge:
A peece of marbell fell and reft his breath,
As he (good Lad) stoode strewing slowres beneath;
A signe that Death dawnts not the mothers grudge.

To Cupid, for revenge of his unkind and crucll Love.

Declaring his faithfull fervice, and true hart

both to the God of Love and his Ladie.

IF I had beene in Troyan ground, When Ladie Venus tooke hir wound;

If I in Greekish campe had beene, Or clad in armour had beene feene: If Hector had by mee beene flaine, Or Prince Æneas put to paine; If I the machin huge had brought, By Grecian guile fo falfely wrought, Or rayfed it above the wall, Of Troie that procurde the fall; Then could I not thee (Cupid) blame, If thou didst put mee to this shame, But I have alwaies beene as true To thee, and thine in order due, As ever was there any wight, That fayth and truth to Cupid plight. I never yet despise thy lawe, But aye of thee did ftand in awe: I never callde thee buffard blinde. I no fuch fault in thee did finde. But thought my time well fpent to bee That I imploide in ferving thee. I wifte thou wert of force and powre To conquere Princes in an howre: When thou retaindft mee as thy man, I thought my felfe most happie than. Since this is true that I have faide, Good Cupid let mee have thy aide; Helpe mee to wreake my wrath aright, And fuccor mee to worke my fpight. To thee it appertaines of due Him to affift that is fo true; And thou of reason shouldst torment

Such as by wilfull will are bent To triumph over those that serve Thee in the field, and never fwerve. Go bend thy bowe with hastie speede. And make hir tigers hart to bleede: Cause hir that little sets by mee, Yet still to stand in awe of thee. Let hir perceive thy fervent fire. And what thou art in raging ire: Now showe thy felfe no man to bee, Let hir a God both feele and fee. She forceth not my cutting paine, Hir vowed othes shee waves as vaine: Shee fits in peace at quiet rest, And fcornes at mee fo dispossest. Shee laughes at thee, and mocks thy might; Thou art not Cupid in hir fight. Shee spites at mee without cause whie, Shee forceth not although I die. I am hir captive, bounde in give, And dare not once for lyfe to strive. The more to thee I call and crie. To rid mee from this crueltie. The more shee seekes to worke hir ire. The more fhee burnes with fealding fire. And all for Cupids fake I bide, From whose decrees I doe not glide: Wherefore (I fay) go bende thy bow, And to hir hart an arrow throw: That dart which breaketh harts of flint. And gives the cruell crafing dint,

Upon hir crabbed breaft beftow,
That fhee thy force and powre may know;
That fhee a myrrour may be knowne
To fuch as be thy deadly fone.
So fhall they good example take,
How to abuse men for thy sake.
Let hir (good Cupid) understande,
That I am thine, both hart and hande;
And to play quittance force a fire,
That shee may frie with whote desire
Of me, whome earst she put to paine:
And this is all that I would gaine.

An Aunswere to his Ladie, that willed him that absence should not breede forgetfulnesse.

THOUGH noble Surrey fayde
that abfence woonders frame,
And makes things out of fight forgot,
and thereof takes his name:
Though fome there are that force
but on their pleafures preft,
Unmindefull of their plighted truth,
and falfely forged heft;
Yet will I not approove
mee guiltie of this crime,
Ne breake the friendship late begoon,
as you shall trie in time.
No distance of the place
shall reave thee from my breft;

Not fawning chaunce, nor frowning hap, fhall make mee fwarve my heft.

As foone may Phœbus frame his fierie fleades to roon

Their race from path they woonted were, and ende where they begoon;

As foone shall Saturne cease his bended broowes to show,

And frowning face to friendly ftarres that in their circles go;

As foone the tiger tame and lion shall you finde,

And brutish beastes that savage were shall swarve their bedlam kinde;

As foone the frost shall flame, and Ætna cease to burne,

And reftleffe rivers to their fprings and fountaines shall returne:

As absence breede debate, or want of fight procure

Our faithfull friendships writh awrie whilft lively death indure.

As foone I will commit my felfe to Lethes lake,

As the (fweete friend) whome I a friend have chose for vertues sake.

How may a man forget the coale that burnes within,

Augmenting still his fecret fore by piercing fell and skin?

May martirs cease to mourne, or thinke of torments prest,

C

Whilst paine to paine is added aie, to further their unrest?

May shipmen in distresse, at pleasure of the winde

Toft to and fro by furge of feas that they in tempest finde,

Forget Neptunus rage, or bluftring Borias blaft,

When cables are in funder crackt, and tackle rent from maft?

Ne may I (friend) forget (unleffe I would but faine)

The falve that doth recure my fore and heales the fcarre againe.

I fend thee by the winde ten thousand fighes a day,

Which dim the fkies with clowdie fmoke as they doe paffe away.

Oft gazing on the funne, I count Apollo bleft,

For that he vewes thee once aday in paffing to the west.

Oh! that I had his powre and blafing lampe of light,

Then thou, my friend, should stand asurde to never see the night.

But fince it is not fo, content thy felfe a while,

And with remembrance of thy friend the lothsome time begile;

Till Fortune doe agree that we shall meete againe,

For then shall prefence breede our joies whome abfence put to paine.

And of my olde good will (good friend) thy felfe affure:

Have no diftruft, my love shall last as long as life shall dure.

Of a Thracyan that was drownde by playing on the Ise.

A THRACYAN boy, well tipled all the day,
Upon a frozen fpring did fport and play;
The flipper ife with hieft of bodies fway
On fodaine brake, and fwapt his head away:
It fwam aloft, bylowe the carcas lay.
The mother came and bore the head away;
When fhee did burie it thus gan fhee fay:
This brought I foorth in flame his hierce to have,
The rest amids the flocd to finde a grave.

The Lover hoping in May to have had redresse of his woes, and yet fowly missing his purpose, bewailes his cruell hap.

You that in May have bathde in blis,
And founde a falve to ease your fore,
Do May observaunce: reason is
That May should honord be therfore.
Awake out of your drowsie sleepe,
And leave your tender beds of downe,
Of Cupids lawes that taken keepe,
With sommer flowers deck your crowne.

As foone as Venus starre doth showe. That brings the dawning on his back, And cheereful light begins to growe, By putting of his foe to wrack, Repaire to heare the wedded makes, And late youpled in a knote, The nightingale that fits in brakes, And telles of Tereus truth by note; The thruffell, with the turtle dove, The little robin eke vfeare, That make rehearfall of their love. Make hafte (I fay) that yee were theare. Into the fieldes where Dian dwels, With nimphes environd round about, Hafte yee to daunce about the wels, A fit pastime for such a rout. Let them doe this that have received In May the hire of hoped grace; But I, as one that am bereavde Of bliffefull ftate, will hide my face, And doole my daies with ruthfull voice, As fits a retchlesse wight to doe, Since now it lies not in my choife To quite mee from this curfed woe. I harbour in my breast a thought which now is turned another way, That pleafant May would mee ybrought From Scylla to a better bay. Since all (quoth I) that Nature made, And placed here in earth bylowe, When Spring returnes, of woonted trade Doe banish griefe that earft did growe,

And chaungeth eke the churlish cheere And frowning face of Tellus hewe, With vernant flowers that appeare To clad the foile with mantell newe: Since fnakes doe cast their shriveled skinnes. And bucks hang up their heads on pale; Since frifking fishes lofe their finnes, And glide with new repaired scale, Then I of force with greedie eie Must hope to finde to ease my smart. Since eche anoy in Spring doth die, And cares to comfort doe convart. Then I (quoth I) shall reach the port, And fast mine ancker on the ground, Where lyes my pleasure and disport, Where is my furetie to be found. There shall my beaten barke have rode, And I for fervice done be paid; My forrowes quite shall be unlode. Even thus unto my felfe I faid, But (out alas!) it falles not fo, May is to mee a month of mone, In May, though others comfort gro, My feedes of griefe are furely fowne. My bitter teares for water ferve, Wherewith the garden of my breft I moift, for feare the feedes should sterve, And thus I frame mine owne unrest. Let others, then, that feelen joy Extole the merrie month of May, And I that tafted have annoy, In praise thereof will nothing fay;

But wish returne of winters warre,
And blustring force of Borias force againe,
These fower seedes of wo to marre,
By force of winde and wisking raine:
And so, perhaps, by better sate,
At next returne of spring, I may,
By chaunging of my former state,
Cast off my care, and chaunge my lay.

To a fickle and unconstant Dame, a friendly warning.

WHAT may I thinke of you (my fawlcon free) That having hood, lines, buets, bels of mee, And woonted earst, when I my game did spring, To flie fo well and make fuch nimble wing, As might no fowle for weightnesse well compare With thee, thou wert a bird fo passing rare: What may I deeme of thee (fayre fawlcon) now, That neyther to my lure nor traine wilt bow. But this, that when my backe is turnde and gon, Another gives thee rumpes to tyre upon. Well, wanton, well; if you were wife in deede, You would regard the fift whereon you feede: You would the horse devouring crow refuse, And gorge your felfe with fleshe more fine to chuse. I wishe thee this for woonted olde good will To flie more hie, for feare the stowping will Breede him, that now doth keepe thee, out of love, And thinke his fawlcon will a buffard prove. Which if he deeme, or doe suspect at all, He will abate thy flesh, and make thee fall.

So that of force thou shalt enforced bee Too doe by him as nowe thou doft by mee: That is, to leave the keeper, and away. Fawlcon, take heede, for this is true I fay.

The Lover to his Ladie, that gafed much up to the Skies.

My girle, thou gazeft much upon the golden fkies:
Would I were Heauen! I would behold thee then with all mine eies.

The Penitent Lover, utterly renouncing love, craves pardon of forepassed follies.

IF fuch as did amiffe,
and ran their race awrie,
May boldely crave at judges hand
fome mercie ere they die,

And pardon for their gilt that wilfully transgreft,

And fawe the bownds before their eies that vertue had addrest:

Then I, that brake the bancks which reafon had affignde

To fuch as would purfue hir traine, may stande in hope to finde

Some favour at hir hand, fince blinde forecast was cause,

And not my wilfull will in fault, that I have fwervde hir lawes. Mifguided have I beene, and trayned all by truft, And love was forger of the fraude, and furtherer of my luft:

Whose vele did daze mine eies,

and darckned fo my fight With errors foggie mift at firft, that reason gave no light.

And as those wofull wightes that faile on swelling seas,

When windes and wrathfull waves conspire to banish all their ease;

When heavenly lamps are hid from shipmens hungrie eies,

And lodestarres are in covert kept within the cloudie skies;

As they without refpect doe follow Fortunes lore,

And run at randome in the flood where Æols impes doe rore,

Till golden crefted Phebe, or elfe his fifters light,

Have chafde away those noysome clouds, and put the same to flight:

So I (unhappie man) have followde love a fpace,

And felt the whottest of his flame, and flashing fierie blase.

In darkneffe have I dwelt, and errours uglie shade,

Unwitting how to raise a starre from perill to evade.

Few daies came on my head wherein was caufe of joy,

But day and night were readie both to haften mine anov.

Short were my fleepes (God wot) most dreadfull were my dreames,

Mine eies (as conduits of the hart)
did gush out faltish streames:

Tormented was my corfe, my minde was never free,

But both repleate with anguish aye, difference fought to bee.

No place might like mee long, no pleafure could endure,

In flead of fport was fmart at hande, for pastime paine in vre:

A bondman to my felfe,

yet free in others fight,

Not able to refift the rage of winged archers might.

Thus have I fpent my time in fervage as a thrall,

Till reason of hir bountie list mee to hir mercie call.

Now have I made returne, and by good hap retirde

From Cupids camp and deepe dispaire, and once againe afpirde

To Ladie Reafons stawle, where wifedome throned is,

On promife of amends releaft, is all that was amis.

To Plato now I flie, and Senecs found advice: A fatch for love! I force not now what chaunce fall on the dice.

To his Friend that refusde him without cause why, but onely upon delight of chaunge.

You showe your felfe to bee a woman right by kinde: You lyke and then mislyke againe, where you no cause doe finde. I can not thinke that love was planted in your breft, As did your flattring lookes declare, and perjurde tongue protest. Thou fwarfte alone that I thy fansie did subdue, Then why should frensie force thee now to flow thy felfe untrue? Fie, faithleffe woman, fie! wilt thou condemne the kinde Bicaufe of just report of yll, and blot of wavering minde? Too playne it now appeares that lust procurde thy loue, Or elfe it would not fo decay and causelesse thus remove. I thought that I at first a Lucrece had fubdude.

But nowe I finde that fansie fonde my fenses did delude:

I deemde that I had got a fawlcon to the fift,

Whome I might quickly have reclaimde; but I my purpose mist,

For (oh) the worfer hap, my fawlcon is fo free,

As downe the floupes to flraungers hire, and forceth leaft of mee.

Good shape was yll bestowde upon so vile a kite,

That haggard wife doth love to live, and doth in chaunge delight.

Yeeld me thy flanting hood, fhake off those belles of thine,

Such checking buffards yll deferve or bell or hood to fine.

With fowles of bafer fort

how can you brooke to flie,

That earft your nature did to hawkes of ftately kinde applie?

If want of pray enforfte this chaunge, thou art too blame,

For I had ever traines in store to make my fawlcon game.

I had a taffell eke,

full gentle by his kinde,

Too flie with thee, in use of wing the greater joy to finde.

No; doubtleffe wanton luft and flefhly fowle defire

Did make thee loath my friendly lure, and fet thy hart on fire.

Too trie what mettall was in buffards to be founde,

This, this was it that made thee ftowpe from loftie gate to grounde:

Wherefore if ever luck doe let me light on thee,

And Fortune graunt me once againe thy keeper for to bee,

Thy diet shall be such, thy tyring rumpes so bare,

As thou shalt know thy keeper well, and for none other care.

Meanewhile on carren feede, thy hungrie gorge to glut,

That all thy lust in daylie chaunge and diet new dost put.

Difeases must of force fuch feeding sowle ensue:

No force to me; thou wert my bird, But (fawlcon) now adue.

To one that, upon furmife of advertitie, forewent hir Friend.

As too the whyte, and lately lymed house The doves doe flock in hope of better fare, And leave their home of culvers cleane and bare: As to the kitchin postes the peeping mouse,

Where vittailes fine and curious cates are dreft, And shoons the shop where livelyhood waxeth thin. Where he before had fillde his emptie skin, And where he chose him first to be a guest: As lyfe unto the lyving carcaffe cleave, But balke the fame made readie to the beare. So you that earst my friend to seeming weare, In happie state, your needie friend doe leave. Unfriendly are those other, dove and mouse. That doe refuse olde harbour for a newe. And make exchaunge for lodge they never knewe: Unfriendly eke the flowe and lumpish lowse, But more uncivill you that wittie arre To judge a friend, your friendship to forgo Without a cause and make exchaunges so; For friendes are needed most in time of warre. Put case that chaunce withdrew hir olde good will, And frownde on mee to whome shee was a friend, Is that a reason why your love should end? No, no, you should a friend continue still; For true good will in miferie is tride, For then will none but faithfull friends abide.

To Maister Googes fansie that begins: Give monie mee, take friendship who so list.

FRIEND Googe, give me the faithfull friend to trust, And take the fickle coine for mee that lust; For friends in time of trouble and distresse With help, and sound advise will soone redresse Eche growing griefe that gripes the penfive breft. When monie lies lockt up in covert cheft. Thy coine will cause a thousand cares to grow, Which if thou hadft no coine thou couldft not know. Thy friend no care but comfort will procure, Of him thou mayst at neede thy selfe assure. Thy monie makes the theefe in waite to lie, Whose fraude thy friend and falsehood will descrie. Thou canst not keepe unlockt thy carefull coine, But fome from thee thy monie will purloine: Thy faithfull friend will never start aside, But take his share of all that shall betide. When thou art dead thy monie is bereft, But after life thy truftie friend is left: Thy monie ferves another maifter than, Thy faythfull friend lincks with none other man.

So that (friend Googe) I deeme it better I To choose the friend, and let the monie lie.

The Lover abused renownceth Love.

For to revoke to penfiue thought,
And troubled head my former plight,
How I by earneft fute have fought
And griefull paines a loving wight,
For to accoy, accoy,
And breede my joy,
Without anoy, makes faltish bryne
To flush out of my vapord eyne.
To thinke upon the fundrie snares

And privie panthers that were led To forge my daylie dolefull cares, Whereby my hoped pleafures fled,

Doth plague my hart, my hart, ...

With deadly fmart,

Without defart, that have indurde Such woes, and am not yet recurde.

Was never day come on my hed Wherein I did not fue for grace, Was never night but I in bed Unto my pillow tolde my cafe,

Bayning my breft, my breft, For want of reft,

With teares opprest, yet remedie none Was to be found for all my mone.

If fhe had dained my good will, And recompenst me with hir love, I would have beene hir vassell still, And never once my hart remove:

> I did pretend, pretend, To be hir friend

Unto the end; but fhe refusde. My loving hart, and me abusde.

I did not force upon the fpite And venemous ftings of hiffing fnakes; I wayed not their words a mite, That fuch a doe at lovers makes:

I did rejoyce, rejoyce,
To have the voyce
Of fuch a choyce, and fmild to fee
That they reported fo of mee.

Oh mee! moft luckie wight (quoth I) At whome the people fo repine: I trust the rumor that doth flie Will force hir to my will incline,

And like well mee, well mee,
Whome shee doth see,
Hir love to bee, unfainedly,

In whome shee may full well affie.

But now at length I plainely vew That woman never gave hir breft; For they by kindly course will rue On such as seeme to love them best:

And will relent, relent, And be content,

When nought is ment, fave friendly hart, And love for never to depart.

Some cruell tiger lent hir tet And fostred hir with savage pap, That can not finde in hart to let

A man to love hir; fince his hap Hath fo affignde, affignde To have his minde

To love inclinde, in honest wise Whome shee should not of right despise.

But fince I fee hir ftonie hart Cannot be pierft with pitties launce; Since nought is gainde but wofull fmart, I doe intende to breake the daunce,

And quite forgo, forgo
My pleafant fo,
That paines mee fo, and thinkes in fine

To make me like to Circes fwine. I cleane defie hir flattering face, I quite abhorre hir luring lookes: As long as Jove shall give mee grace, Shee never comes within my bookes.

I doe detest, detest So false a guest,

That breedes unrest, where she should plant Hir loue, if pittie did not want.

Let hir go feeke fome other foole,
Let hir inrage fome other dolt;
I have beene taught in Platos schoole
From Cupids banner to revolt,
And to forsake, forsake,

As fearefull fnake, Such as doe make a man but fmart For bearing them a faithfull hart.

The forfaken Lover laments that his Ladie is matched with an other.

As Menelaus did lament
When Helena to Troie went,
And to the Teucrian guest applide,
And all hir countrie friends defide;
Even so I feele tormenting paine
To lurck in erie little vaine,
And ransack all my corse to see
That shee hath now forsaken mee,

The faithfull friend that fhe could finde;
But fickle dames will to their kinde.
A fimple chaunge in fayth it was
To leave the lyon for the affe:
Such chopping will but make you bare,
And fpend your lyfe in carck and care,
You might have taken better heede
Then left the graine, and chofe the weede:
Your harveft would the better beene,
If you had to your bargin eene,

But to recant it is to late;
Go too, a Gods name, to your mate.
Tis muck that makes the pot to play,
As men of olde were woont to fay;
And women marrie for the gaine,
Though oft it fall out to their paine,
And, as I geffe, thou haft ydoon.
When all thy twift is throughly fpoon,
It will appeare unto thy foes,
Thou pluckft a nettle for a rofe:

In fayth, thy friend would loth to fee Thy curfed luck fo yll to bee.

Of one that was in reversion.

ANOTHER hath that I did bie,
and I enjoy that hee imbrafte:
I reape the graine, and pluck the peare,
but he had peare and corne at lafte.
Which fithens Fortune hath allowde,
let eyther well contented bee:

I hate him not for his delights; then let him doe the lyke to mee.

For fo we both be pleafde, I fay, this bargaine was devifed well:

Let him with prefent good delight as I what time to mee it fell.

If ever he by hap forgo,

I trust my hope is not in vaine;

I hope the thing I once enjoyde will to his owner come againe.

Which if be fo, then happie I that had the first, and have the laste.

What better fortune may there bee than in reversion to be plaste?

That all hurts and loffes are to be recovered and recured.

fave the cruell wound of Love.

THE furgeon may devife a falve for erie fore,

And to recure all inwarde griefes phisitions have in store

Their fimples to compounde, and match in mixture fo,

As ech disease from sicklie corse they can ensorce to go.

The wastfull wrack of welth that merchants doe sustaine,

By happie vent of gotten wares may be supplied againe.

A towne by treafon loft, a forte by falfehood woon, By manly fight is got againe, and helpe of hurtfull goon.

Thus eche thing hath redreffe, and fweete recure againe:

Save onely love, that farther frets, and feedes on inward paine.

No Galen may this griefe by phificks force expell;

No reasons rule may ought prevaile where lurcking love doth dwell.

The patient hath no powre of holesome things to taste;

No drench, no drug, nor firop fweete, his hidden harme may wafte.

No comfort comes by day, no pleafant fleepe by night,

No needefull nap at noone may ease the lovers painefull plight:

In deepe difpaire he dwels till in comes hope of eafe,

Which fomewhat leffens paines of love, and calmes the surge of feas.

His head is fraught with thoughts, his hart with throwes repleate,

His eies amazde, his quaking hand, his ftomack lothing meate.

This bale the lover bides and hatefull hagge of hell,

And yet himselfe doth deeme that he in Paradyce doth dwell.

Of the choise of his Valentine.

With others I to choose a valentine Addrest my felse: ech had his dearest friend In scrole ywrit, among the reast was mine. See now the luck by lot that chaunce doth send

To Cupids crewe, marke Fortune how it falls, And mark how Venus imps are Fortuns thralls. The papers were in couert kept from fight:

In hope I went to note what hap would fall;
I choze, but on my friend I could not light,
(Such was the Goddesse wil that wildes the ball).

But fee good luck: although I mist the same,
I hapt on one that bare my ladies name.
Unegall though their beauties were to looke,
Remembrance yet of hir well seaturd sace
So often seene, thereby my senses tooke,
Unhappie though she were not then in place.

Long you to learne what name my ladie hight? Account from U. to. A. and spell aright.

Of an open Foe and a fayned Friend.

Not he fo much anoies
that fayes, I am thy fo,
As he that beares a hatefull hart,
and is a friend to fho.
Of tone we may beware,
and flie his open hate,
But tother bites before he barck,
a hard avoyded mate.

Againe.

OF both give mee the man that fayes, I hate in deede, Than him that hath a kuife to kill, yet weares a friendly weede.

Of a ritch Miser.

A MISERS minde thou haft, thou haft a princes pelfe; Which makes thee welthy to thine heire, a beggar to thy felfe.

Of a Painter that painted Favour.

THOU (painter fond) what means this mad devise Favour to drawe? fith uncouth is the hed From whence it comes, and first of all was bred. Some deeme that it of beautie doth arise. Dame Fortunes babie and undoubted fonne. Some other do furmise this favour was: Againe, fome think by chaunce it came to passe; Another faies of vertue it begonne. What mate is he that daylie is at hand? Ques. Faire speaking he and glosing flattrie hight. Auns. What he that flowly comes behind? Auns. Despight. Ques. What they (I pray) that him inviron ftand? Oues. Wealth, honor, pride, and noble needefull lawes. Auns. And leading luft that drives to thousand ills.

What meane those wings, & painted quivering quills? Ques. Cause upward aie Dame Fortune favour drawes. Why blinde is favour made? (Auns.) for cause that he Ones. That is unthriftie once yplast amount From bafer ftep, not had in any count, Can not difcerne his friends, or who they be. Why treades he on the tickle turning wheele? Oucs. He followes fortunes fteps and giddie gate. Auns. Unstaied chances are unstedfast mate. And when that things are well, can never feele. Then tell me one thing else to peafe my minde, My laft demaund. What meanes his fwelling fo? Ques. How chaunft that favour doth fo prowdly go? Auns. Good haps by courfe us men doe maken blinde.

The Lover whose Lady dwelt fast by a Prison.

One day I hide me fast unto the place Where logde my love, a passing propre dame For head, hand, leg, lim, wealth, wit, comly grace; And being there my sute I gan to frame: The smokie sighes bewrayde my firie slame; But cruell shee, disdainefull, coy, and curst, Forst not my words, but quaild her friend at furst.

Whereat I lookt me up a wofull wight,

And threw mine eis up to the painted skie,
In minde to waile my hap; and saw in fight
Not far from thence a place where prisners lie,
For crimes forepast the after paines to trie:
A laberinth, a loathsome lodge to dwell,
A dungeon deepe, a dampe as darke as hell.

Oh happie you (quoth I) that feel the force
Of girding gyve, thirft, cold and ftonie bed,
Refpect of mee, whose love hath no remorce!
In death you live, but I in life am ded,
Your joy is yet to come, my pleasure fled.
In prison you have mindes at freedome aye,
I free am thrall, whose love seekes his decaye.
Unworthy you to live in such distresse
Whose former faults repentance did bewaile:
More fitter were this ladie mercilesse
At grate to stand, with whome no tears prevaile:
More worthy she to live in loathsome gaile,
That murders such as sue to hir for lyse,
And spoyles hir faithfull friends with spiteful knyse.

Complaint of the Long Absence of his Love, upon the first Acquaintance.

O curfed, cruell, canckred, chaunce!
O fortune full of fpight!
Why haft thou fo on fodaine reft
from mee my chiefe delight?
What glorie shalt thou gaine, perdie,
or purchace by the rage?
This is no conquest to be callde:
wherefore thy rage asswage.
To soone eclipsed was my joy,
my dolors grow to fast;
For want of hir that is my life,
my life it cannot last.
Is this thy sickle kind so soone
to hoise a man to joy,

And ere he touch the top of bliffe to breede him fuch anoy?

Nowe doe I plaine perceive and fee that poets faine not all,

For churlish chaunce is counted blinde, and full of filthy gall.

I thought there had bene no fuch dame ne goddesse on a wheele,

But now too well I know her kinde,

too foon hir force I feele;

And that which doth augment my fmart, and maketh more my woe,

Is for I felt a fodaine joy where now this griefe doth grow.

If thou hadft ment (unhappie hap) thus to have nipt my joy,

Why didft thou flow a fmyling cheere that flouldft have lookt acoy?

For griefes doe nothing grudge at all, but where was bliffe before:

None wailes the want of wealth fo much as he that had the ftore.

Not he that never faw the funne complaines for lack of light,

But fuch as faw his golden gleames, and knew his cheerefull might.

Too late I learne, through fpitefull chaunce, that joy is mixt with wo,

And eche good hap hath hate in hoorde; the course of things is so.

So poyfon lurcks in fuger fweete, the hooke fo hides the bayte;

F F

Even fo in greene and pleafant graffe the ferpent lies in wayte.

Ulyffes wife, I learne at laft thy forrow and diftreffe,

In abfence of thy lingring love, that should thy woes redresse.

Great was your griefe (ye Greekish Girlles) whilste stately Troie stood,

And kept your husbands from your laps in perill of their blood.

All ye, therefore, that have affayde what torments lack procures

Of that you love, lament my lack which overlong endures.

Ye winds, transport my foking fighes to my new chosen friende;

So may my forrow fwage, perhaps, and dreerie ftate have ende.

Ye fighes, make true report of teares, that fo beraine my breft,

As Helens husbands never were for treafon of his gueft.

If thou (my letter) maift attaine the place of hir abode,

Doe thou, as herauld of the hart, my forrowes quite unlode.

In thee, as in a myrrour cleere or christall, may she vewe

My pangues, my paynes, my fighes and teares, which tigers could but rewe.

There shall shee see my secret parts encombred all with mone,

My fainting lims, my vapord eien,
with hart as colde as stone.

I know shee can but rue my case
when thou presents my sute,
Wherefore play thou thy part so well
that I may reape the srute.

And if (when shee hath read thee through)
shee place thee in hir lap,
Then chaunge thy cheere, thy maister hath

his long defired hap.

The ventrous Lover, after long absence, craves his Ladie to meete with him in place to enterparte of hir aventures.

IF fo Leander durst from Abydon to Seft To swim to Herô, whome he chose his friend above the rest. And gage his comely corfe unto the fowling tyde, To lay his water beaten lims fast by hir tender side; Then I (my deare) whose gleames and ardor doth surpasse The fcorching flame and blafing heate that in Leander was. May well prefume to take the greatest toyle in hande, To reach the place where thou doft lodge the chiefe of Venus bande.

For not Leanders love
my friendship doth excell,

Nor Herô may compare with hir that beares dame Beauties bell.

There refteth nought for thee but to affigne the place, The mirrie day, the joyfull houre

The mirrie day, the joyfull houre when I may fee thy face.

Appoint the certaine tide and fixed ftem of ftay,

And thou shalt fee thy faithfull friend will quickly come his way,

Not dreeding any doubt, but ventroufly will go

Through thick and thin, to gaine a glimfe of thee his fugred fo.

Where when by hap we meete, our long endured woes

Shall ftint by force of friendly thoughts which we shall then discloss.

Then eyther may unfolde the fecrets of the hart,

And show how long dislodge hath bred our cruell cutting smart.

Then may we freely chat of all forepaffed toyes,

And put those pensive pangues to slight with new recourse of joyes.

Then pleasure shall possesses the lodge where dolour lay,

And mirrie blincks put cloudes of care and lowring lookes away:

Then kiffing may be plide and clipping put in ure,

And lingred fores by Cupids falves afpire to quick recure.

Oh! dreede thou not at all, fet womans feare a part,

And take the courage of a man that haft a manly hart,

In hoftage aie with thee, to use at thy devise,

In all affaires and needefull houres, as matter shall arise.

Revoke to loving minde how ventrous Thisbe met

In fearefull night with Pyramus where Nynus tombe was fet:

So hazard thou to come unto the pointed place,

To thwart thy friend, and meete with him that longs to fee thy face;

Who better will attend thy friendly comming there,

Than Pyramus of Thysbe did his difappointed feere.

For (oh!) their meeting was the reaver of their breath,

The crop of endlesse care, and cause of either lovers death.

But we fo warely will our fixed time attende,

As no mishap shall grow thereby; And thus I make an ende With wishing well to thee, and hope to meete in place To enterparle with thee (my friend) and tell my dolefull case.

To Maister Googe his Sonet out of sight out of thought.

THE leffe I fee, the more my teene,
The more my teene the greater griefe,
The greater griefe, the leffer feene,
The leffer feene, the leffe reliefe;
The leffe reliefe the hevier spright,
When P. is farthest out of fight.

The rarer feene, the rifer fobs,
The rifer fobbes, the fadder hart,
The fadder hart, the greater throbs,
The greater throbs, the worfer fmart;
The worfer fmart proceedes of this
That I my P. fo often miffe.

The neerer too, the more I fmile, The more I fmile, the merier minde; The mirrie minde doth thought exile, And thought exilde, recourse I finde Of heavenly joyes: all this delight Have I when P. is once in fight.

The Lover, whose Mistresse feared a Mouse, declareth that he would become a Cat, if he might have his desire.

If I might alter kinde, what thinke you I would bee?

Nor fish, nor foule, nor fle, nor frog, nor squirrell on the tree.

The fifth the hooke, the foule the lymed twig doth catch,

The fle the finger, and the frog the buffard doth dispatch.

The fquirrell thincking nought that feately cracks the nut,

The greedie gashauke wanting pray in dread of death doth put.

But fcorning all these kindes, I would become a cat,

To combat with the creeping mouse, and scratch the screeking rat:

I would be prefent aye, and at my ladies call,

To gard hir from the fearefull moufe in parlour and in hall.

In kitching for his life he fhould not fhew his hed.

The peare in poke should lie untoucht, when shee were gone to bed:

The moufe should stand in feare, fo should the squeaking rat.

All this would I doe, if I were converted to a cat.

The Lover driven to absent him from his Ladie, bawayles his estate.

WHEN angrie Greekes with Troians fought, In minde to fack their welthie towne, King Agamemnon needefull thought To beate the neighbour cities downe; And by his princely power to quell Such as by Priams realme did dwell.

Thus forth he travailde with his traine Till he unto Lyrnefus came,
Where cruell fight he did maintaine,
And flue fuch wights as were of fame:
Downe went the walles and all to wrack,
And fo was Lyrnes brought to fack.

Two noble dames of passing shape Unto the prince were brought in fine, That might compare with Paris rape, Their glimring beauties so did shine: The prince chose fairest of the twaine, And Achyll tother for his paine.

And thus the warlike chiefetaines livde Eche with his ladie in delight, Till Agamemnon was deprivde Of hir that golden Chryfes hight; For Gods did will as (poets faine) That he should yeelde hir up againe.

Which done, he reft Achilles mate To ferve in Chryfis place at neede, Not forcing on the fowle debate That followde of that cruell deede: For why, Achylles grutged fore To lofe the laffe he wan before.

And what for griefe and great disdaine The Greeke his helmet hoong aside, And sworde that many a knight had slaine, And shield that Trojan darts had tride: Refusing to approach the place Where he was woont his foes to chase.

His manly courage was appallde, His valiant hart began to yeelde, His brawned armes, that earft were gallde With clattering armour in the field, Had loft their force; his fift did faint, His gladsome songs were growne to plaint.

His mouth refuse his woonted foode, His tongue could feele no taste of meat, His hanging cheekes declarde his moode, His feltred beard with haire unset, Bewraid his sodaine chaunge of cheere For loosing of his loving feere.

His eares but forrowes founde could heare,
The trumpets tune was quite forgot,
-His eies were fraught with many a teare,
Whome carcking care permitted not
The pleafant flumber to retaine
To quite the fielie mifers paine.

The thousande part of pensive care
The noble Greeke endured than
In Bryseis absence, to declare
It farre surmounts the wit of man;
But sure a martyr right he livde
Of Bryseis beautie once berivde.

If thus Achylles valiant hart
Were wrapt in web of wailefull wo,
That was inurde too dint of dart,
His loving Bryfeis to forgo;
If thus the fturdie Greeke (I fay)
Bewaild the night and wept the day,

Then blame not mee, a loving wight Whom Nature made to Cupids bow, To live in fuch a piteous plight, Bewasht with waves of woorser wo Than ever was the Greekish peere Dispoiled of his darling deere.

For I of force am faine to flee The preffe, the prefence and the place Of you my love, a braver B Than Bryfeis was for foote and face; For head, for hande, for carkaffe eeke, Not to be matcht of any Greeke.

Whose troth you have full often tride, Whose hart hath beene unsolded quight, Whose faith by friendship was describe, Whose joy consisted in your sight, Whose paine was pleasure if in place He might but gaze upon thy face.

O dolefull Greeke! I would I might Exchaunge my trouble for thy paine, For then I hope I fhould acquite My griefe with gladfome joyes againe; For Bryfeis made return to thee: Would B. might doe the like to mee!

But to exchaunge my love for thine,
Or B. for Bryfeis I ne would:
To labour in the leaden mine,
And leave the ground where growes the golde,
I minde it not: it follie were
To choose the paie, and leave the peare.

That Lovers ought rather, at first acquaintance, to shew thir meanings by Pen then by Mouth.

IF all that feele the fits of love And flanckring sparkes of Cupids fire, By tatling tongues should say to move Their ladies to their sonde desire, No doubt, a number would but gaine A badge of sollie for their paine.

For ladyes eyther would suspect Those sugred wordes, so sweete to eare, With secrete poysons baite infect, Or else would wisely stand in seare, That all such slame as so did burne To dustie cinders soone would turne.

For he that bluntly doth presume, On small acquaintance, to display His hidden fire by casting sume Of wanton words, doth misse the way To win the wight he honours so, For of a friend he makes a fo.

For who is fhee that may endure The dapper tearmes that lovers use? And painted proems to procure The modest matrons minde to muse? No; first let writings go to tell Your ladies that you love them well.

And when that time hath triall made Of perfite love and faithfull breft, Then boldly may you further wade: This counfell I account the beft; And this (my deare) procurde my quill To write, and tongue to be fo ftill.

Which now at first shall flatly showe, As faithfull herauld of the hart, The perfite love to thee I owe, That breedst my joy, and wilt my smart, Unlesse at last (remembrance) rue Upon hir (thought) that will be true.

Wherefore I fay, go flender fcrole
To hir the fielie mouse that shonnes:
Salute in friendly fort the soule
Among those pretice beastes that wonnes,
That bit the pocat for the peare,
And bred the soule to such a feare.

An Epitaph of Maister Win, drowned in the sea.

WHO fo thou art that paffeft by this place,
And runft at random on the flipper way,
Recline thy liftning eare to mee a fpace;
Doe ftay thy fhip, and hearken what I faye:
Caft ankor here untill my tale be donne,
So maift thou chaunce the lyke mifhaps to fhonne.

Learne this of mee; that men doe live to die, And death decayes the worthieft wightes of all. No worldly welth or kingdomes can fupplie, Or garde their princes from the fatall fall: One way to come unto this lyfe we fee, But to be rid thereof a thousand bee. My gallant youth and frolick yeares behight Mee longer age, and filver haires to have; I thought my day would never come to night, My prime provokte me to forget my grave: I thought by water to have scapte the death That now amid the seas doe lose my breath.

Now, now the churlish chanell me doth chock, Now surging seas conspire to breede my carke, Now sighting slouds ensorce me to the rock, Charybdis whelps and Scyllas dogs doe barke; Now hope of life is past, [and] now I see That W. can no more a lives man bee.

Yet I do well affie for my defart (When cruell death hath done the worst it may) Of well renowmed Fame to have a part To save my name from ruine and decay: And that is all that thou or I may gaine, And so adue: I thanke thee for thy paine.

Againe.

O NEPTUNE, churlish chuff, O wayward woolse!
O god of seas by name, no god in deede!
O Tyran, ruler of the gravell goolse
Where greater fish on lesser spawne doth seede,
Why didst thou drench with deadly mace a wight
That well deserved to run his course aright?

O cruell curfed tide! O weltring wave
That W. wrought this deteftable care!
O wrathfull furge! why wouldft thou not vouchfafe
A mid thy rage fo good a youth to fpare,

And fuffer him in luckie bark to reach
The pleafant port of eafe and blifsfull beach?

But what though furging feas and toffing tide Have done their worft, and uttered all their force In working W. wrack, that fo hath tride The cruelft rage that might befall his corfe, Yet naythelesse his ever during name Is fast ingravde within the house of Fame.

Let fishes feede upon his flesh apace, Let crawling cungers creepe about his bones, Let wormes awake and W. carkasse race, For why it was appointed for the nones: But when they have done all the spite they can His good report shall live in mouth of man.

In ftead of ftonie tombe and marble grave, In lieu of a[ny] lamentable verfe, Let W. on the fandie cheafell have This dolefull rime in ftead of better hierfe: Lo! here among the wormes doth W. woon That well deferved a farther race to roon.

But fince his fate allotted him to fall Amid the fowfing feas and troublous tide, Let not his death his faithfull friends appall, For he is not the first that so hath dide, Nor shall be seene the last: as nie a way To heaven by waters as by land they say.

Praise of his Love.

APPELLES, lay the pensill downe, and fhun thy woonted fkill,

Let brute no more with flattring trumpe the Greekish eares sulfill:

Clayme not to thee fuch painters praife as thou haft done of yore,

Least thou in fine be foiled flat, and gained glorie lore.

So feeke not to difgrace the Greekes, thy loving native land,

But rather from depainting formes withdraw thy fkilleft hand:

For fo thou ftiffely ftand and vaunt that thou wilt frame hir like,

Whome I extoll above the starres, thou art a stately Greeke.

As foone with might thou may fe remove the rock from whence it growes,

- As frame hir featurde forme in whome fuch flouds of graces flowes.

If I might speake, unhurt of hate, I would avaunt that kinde.

In fpite of rofe and lillie both, had hir in earth affignde

To dwell among the daintie dames that fhee hath placed heere,

Cause, by hir passing feature might Dame Natures skill appeare.

Hir haire furmounts Apollos pride, in it fuch beautie raines;

Hir gliftring eies the criftall farre and finest faphire staines;

A little mouth with decent chin, a corall lip of hue,

With teeth as white as whale his bone, eche one in order due.

A body blameleffe to be found, armes rated to the fame, Such hands with azure deckt, as all

that warre with hir doe shame.

As for the partes in covert kept and what is not in fight,

I doe esteeme them by the reast, not forcing on dispight.

If I were foreman of the quest, my verdit to expresse,

Forgive mee (Phœbus) of thy place flee flould thee difpossesses.

P. fhould be raifed to the cloudes, and Phœbus brought alow,

For that there fhould live none in earth but might hir vertue know.

Thus to conclude and make an ende; to vouch I dare be bolde,

As foone as Nature hir had made, all Natures ware was folde.

The complaint of a Friend of his having lost his Dove.

What! shold I shed my teares to show mine inward paine Since that the jewell I have lost may not be had again? Yet bootelesse though it bee to utter covert smart, It is a meane to cure the griese, and make a joyfull hart. Wherefore I say to you that have enjoyde your love, Lament with me in wosull wise for loosing of my dove.

You turtle cocks, that are your loving hennes bereft. And do bewaile your cruell chaunce that you alive are left. Come hither, come I fay, come hie in hafte to mee. Let eyther make his dolefull plaint amid this drearie tree. A fitter place than this may no where elfe be found, For friendly eccho here wil cause ech cry to yeeld a sound. In youth it was my luck on fuch a dove to light, As by good nature wan my love, she was my whole delite; A fresher fowle than mine for shape and beauties hue, Was never any man on earth that had the hap to vewe. Dame Nature hir had framde fo perfite in hir kinde, As not the spiteful man himself one fault in hir could finde: Her eie fo paffing pure, hir beake fo brave and fit, The stature of her lims fo small, hir head so full of wit, Hir neck of fo good fyfe, hir plume of colour white, Hir legs and feete fo finely made, though feldom fene in . fight:

Eche part fo fitly pight as none mought chaunge his place, Nor any bird could lightly have fo good and brave a grace.

But most of all that I did fansie was hir voyce,
For swete it was unto mine eare, and made the hart rejoyce.
No fooner could I come in place where she was set,
But up she rose, and joyfull would hir make and lover met:
About my tender neck she would have clasped tho,
And laid hir beake betwixt my lips, sweete kisses to besto;
And ought besides that mought have pleasurde me at all,
Was never man that had a birde so fit to play withall.
When I for joy did sing, she would have song with mee,
When I was wo, my grief was hirs, she wold not plesant be.
But (oh!) amid my joyes came cruell canckred death,

And spiting at my pleasures rest my loving bird hir breath: Who finding me alack, and absent on a day, Caught bow in hand, and strak hir down; a breding as she lay.

Since I have cause to waile the death of such a dove, (Good turtles) help me to lament the losse of my true love. The tree whereon she sat shall be the place where I Will sing my last, and end my life, for (turtles) I must die. You know it is our kinde, we can not live alone, More pleasant is the death to us then life when love is gone. To tell a farther tale my fainting breath denies, And selfe same death that slue my dove begins to close mine eies.

That Lovers ought to shunne no paines to attaine their Love.

IF marchaunts in their warped keales commit themselves to wave,

And dreadfull daunger of the goulse

in tempest that doth rave,

To fet from farre and forraine lands fuch ware as is to fell,

And is not in their native foile where they themselves doe dwell:

If fouldiars ferve in perills place and dread of cannon fhot,

Ech day in daunger of their lives and countrie loffe, God wot,

Whose musick is the dreadfull drum and dolefull trumpets sounde,

Who have, in flead of better bed, the colde and flonie grounde,

And all tattaine the fpoile with fpeede of fuch as doe withftande,

Which flender is fometime we fee when fo it comes to hande:

If they for lucre light fustaine fuch perill as enfues,

Then those that serve the lorde of love no travaile ought refuse;

But lavish of their lively breath all tempest to abide,

To maintaine love and all his lawes what fortune fo betide:

And not to shrink at erie shoure or stormie flaw that lights,

Ne yet to yeelde themselves as thrall to such as with them sights.

Such are not fit for Cupids campe, they ought no wages win,

Which faint before the clang of trump, or battels broile begin:

They must not make account of hurt, for Cupid hath in store

Continually within his compe a falve for erie fore.

Their enfigne bearer is fo floute, ecleaped Hope by name,

As if they follow his advice, ech thing shall be in frame;

But if for want of courage floute the banner be bereft,

If Hope by hap be stricken downe, and no good hope yleft,

Tis time with trump to blow retreate, the field must needes be woon:

So Cupid once be captive tane, his fouldiars are undoon.

Wherefore, what fo they are that love, as waged men doe ferve,

Must shun no daunger drift at all, ne from no perill swerve:

Keepe watch and warde the wakefull night, and never yeelde to reft,

For feare leaft thou, a waiting nought, on fodaine be opprest.

Though hunger gripe thy emptie maw, endure it for a while,

Till time doe ferve with good repast fuch famine to beguile:

Be not with chilly colde difmaide, let fnow nor ife procure

Thy luftfull lims from painefull plight, thy ladie to allure.

That is the fpoile that Cnpid gives, that is the onely wight,

Where at his thralls are woont to rove with arrowes from their fight.

My felfe, as one among the moe, fhall never fpare to fpend

My life, my lims, yea, hart and all, Loves quarrell to defend;

And fo in recompence of paines, and toile of perills paft,

He yeelde mee but my ladies love,
I will not be agaft
Of Fortune, nor hir frowning face:
I nought shall force hir cheere,
But tend on erie turne on hir
that is my loving feere.

A request of Friendship to Vulcans Wyfe, made by Mars.

THOUGH froward Fortune would that you, who are So brave a dame, with Vulcan fhoulden linck, Yet may you love the luftie God of warre, And bleare his eies that no fuch fraud will thinck. Tis Cupids charge; and all the Gods agree, That you be feere to him, and friend to mee.

The Lover that had loved long without requitall of good will.

Long did I love, and likte hir passing well, Whose beautie bred the thraldom of my thought; Long did I sue to hir for to expell The soule distaine that beauties beames had wrought: Long did I serve, and long I would have doon, My minde was bent a thorow race to roon.

Long when I had loovde, fude, and ferved fo, As mought have likte as brave a dame as fhee, Hir friend fhe forced not, but let him go: Shee loovde at leaft befides him two or three.

Hir common cheare to erie one that fude, Bred me to deeme shee did hir friend delude.

Great was my griefe at first to be resussed, That long had loovde with true unsained hart; But when I sawe I had beene long abussed, I forced the lesse from such a friend to part: Yet, ere I gave hir up, I gainde a thing That griefe to hir, and ease to me did bring.

To a Friend that wild him to beware of Envie.

This found advise and counsell fent from you, With friendly hart that you (my friend) doe give, With willing minde I purpose to ensue, And to beware of envie whilst I live: For spitefull it doth nought but malice brue, Aie seeking love from faithfull harts to rive, And plant, in place where persit friendship grue, A mortall hate, good nature to deprive: And those that nip mee by the back behinde, I trust you shall untrue reporters finde.

Of Misreporters.

I HOPE (mine owne) this fixed love of thine Is fo well ftaid and rooted deepe in breft, That not, unleffe thou fee it with thine eine That I from thee my love and friendship wrest, Thou wilt untie the knot of thy beheft.

I trust your selfe of envie will beware, That wild your friend take heede of envies snare.

That no man should write but such as doe excell.

SHOULD no man write (fay you)
but fuch as doe excell?
This fonde devife of yours deferves

a bable and a bell.

Then one alone should doe, or verie few in deede,

For that in erie art there can but one alone exceede.

Should others ydle bee, and waste their age in vaine,

That mought, perhaps, in after time the prick and price attaine?

By practife skill is got, by practife wit is woon:

At games you fee how many doe to win the wager roon;

Yet one among the moe doth beare away the bell:

Is that a cause to say the rest in running did not well?

If none in phifick fhould but onely Galene deale,

No doubt a thousand perishe would, whome phisick now doth heale.

Eche one his talent hath, to use at his devise, Which makes that many men, as well as one, are counted wife. For if that wit alone in one should rest and raine. Then God the skulles of other men did make but all in vaine. Let eche one trie his force, and doe the best he can, For thereunto appointed were the hand and leg of man. The poet Horace speakes against thy reason plaine, Who fayes tis fomewhat to attempt, although thou not attaine The fcope in erie thyng: to touch the highft degree Is paffing hard, too doe the best

fufficing is for thee.

To his Friend, declaring what vertue it is to slick to former plighted friendship.

The fage and filver haired wights doe thinke A vertue rare not to be proude of mind, When fortune fmiles; nor cowardly to fhrink Though chaunged chaunce do fhew hir felf unkind; But chiefest praise is to imbrace the man, In welth and wo, with whome your love began.

Of two desperate Men.

A man in deepe dispaire, with hemp in hand, Went out in haste to ende his wretched daies, And where he thought the gallo tree should stand, He found a pot of gold: he goes his waies Therewith estsoone, and in exchange he left The rope wherewith he would his breath bereft.

The greedie carle came within a fpace
That owde the good, and faw the pot behind
Where ruddocks lay, and in the ruddocks place
A knottie cord, but ruddocks could not find:
He caught the hemp and hoong himfelfe on tree,
For griefe that he is treafure could not fee.

Of the torments of Hell, and the paines of Love.

Though they that wanted grace, and whilome lived heere,

Sustaine such pangues and paines in hell as doth by bookes appeare;

Though reftlesse be the rage of that infernall route,

That voide of feare and pitties plaint doe fling the fire aboute,

And toffe the blafing brands that never shall consume.

And breath on fielie foules that fit and fuffer furious fume;

Though Tantall, Pelops fonne, abide the dropsie dry,

And sterve with hunger where he hath both foode and water by;

Though Tytius doe indure his liver to be rent

Of vultures tyring on the fame unto his spoile ybent;

And Syfiphe though with paine and never ftinting drift

Doe role the ftone from mountaines top and it to mountaine lift;

Though Belydes doe broile and fuffer endlesse paine,

In drawing water from the deepe that falleth downe againe;

Though Agamemnons fonne fuch retchlesse rage indure,

By meane of furies that with flame his griefull fmart procure;

Though Mynos hath affignde Prometheus to the rack,

With hand and foote ystretch awide till all his lims doe crack,

To leade a lothfome life and die a living death,

Amid his paines to wafte his winde, and yet to want no breath;

Though other ftand in Stix with fulpher that doth flame,

And other plunge in Phlegiton fo gaftly for the name;

Though Cerberus, the kaie of Plutos denne that beares,

With hungrie throte and greedie gripe the newcome ftraunger teares;

Though these condemned ghostes fuch dreadfull paine indures,

Yet may they not compare at all with pangues that love procures.

His tiring farre exceedes the gnawing of the gripes,

And with his whip fuch lashes gives that passe Megeras stripes.

He lets the liver lie,

tormenting aie the hart,

He ftrikes and wounds his bounden thrall with dubble hedded dart.

His fire exceedes the flame of deepe Avernus lakes,

And where he once pretendes a plague, a fpitefull fpoile he makes.

His foes doe wake by day, they dread to fleepe the night;

They ban the funne, they curse the moone, and all that else gives light.

They paffe their lothfome lives with not contented minde;

Their dolefull daies drawe flow to date, as Cupid hath affignde.

To Tantall like, but yet their case is worse than his;

They have that they imbrace, but ftraight are quite bereft of blis:

They waste their winde in fighes, they bleare their cies with brine, They breake their bulcks with bowncing griefe, their harts with lingring pine.

Though Orpheus were alive with musick that appealde

The uglie God of Lymbo Lake, and foules fo fore difeafde,

By arte he mought not ease the lovers fervent fits,

Ne purchace him his harts defire, fo troubled are his wits.

No place of quiet reft, no roome devoide of ruth,

No fwaging of his endlesse paine, whose death doth trie his truth.

His chamber ferves for nought but witnesse of his plaint,

His bed and bolfter to bewaile their lorde with love attaint.

The man for murther caught, and clodgde with yron colde,

To fweare that he more happie is than lovers may be bolde;

For he in little space

his dreadfull day shall see,

But Cupids thralls in daylie griefes tormented daylie bee.

A thousand deaths they bide whilft they in life remaine,

And onely plaints and stormie thoughts they are the lovers gaine.

An Epitaph on the death of Maister Tuston of Kent.

HERE may wee fee the force of spitefull death, And what a swaye it beares in worldly things; It neyther spares the one nor others breath, He slayes the keasers and the crowned kings.

Nothing prevailes against his hatefull hande,
He heares no futers when they pleade for lyfe,
The richmans purse cannot deaths powre withstand,
Nor souldiars sworde compare with satall knyfe.
He recketh not of well renowmed same,
He forceth not a whit of golden see,
His greatest joy is to obscure the name
Of such as seeke immortall aie to bee.

For if that wealth, bloud, lynage, or defart,
Love, pittie, zeale, or friendship mought prevaild;
If life well led, if true unfayned hart
Mought purchase lyse, then death had not affaild.

This Tuftons lyfe with curft and cruell blade, Breaking the course of him that ran so right A race as he no stop at all had made, Had death not tript this Tuston for despight.

The poore have loft, the ritch have nothing gaind, The good have cause to mourne, the yll to plaine, For Tuston was to all a friend unfaind.

Let Kent cry out that death hath Tuston slaine, Yet this there is, whereof they may rejoyce, That his good lyse hath woon the peoples voyce.

Againe.

LET never man prefume of worldly wealth, Let riches never breede a loftie minde, Let no man boaft to much of perfite health, Let Natures gifts make no man over blinde, For these are all but bladders full of winde.

Let friendship not enforce a retchlesse thought, Let no desart or life well led before, Let no renowne or glorie greatly sought, Make man forget his present state the more; For death is he that keepes and rids the store.

If eyther health, or goods had beene of powre, If Natures giftes, or friendship and good will, If lyfe forepast, if glories golden bowre Mought have prevaild, or stopt the dolefull knill Of Tuston, then had Tuston lived still.

But now you fee that death hath quight undoon His last of lyse, and put him to the soile, Yet lives the vertue that alive he woon, The times alone are shrowded in the soile: Thus death is ende of all this worldlesse toile.

In praise of Ladie P.

P. SEEMES of Venus ftock to bee for beauties comely grace,
A Gryfell for hir gravitie,
a Helen for hir face:
A fecond Pallas for hir wit,
a goddeffe rare in fight;

A Dian for hir daintinesse, shee is fo chaste a wight.

Doe vew hir corfe with curious eie, eche lim from top to toe,

And you shall fay I tell but truth that doe extoll hir fo.

The head, as chiefe, that flands aloft and over looketh all,

With wifedome is fo fully fraught, as Pallas there did ftall.

Two eares that trust no trifling tales, nor credit blazing brute,

Yet fuch againe as readie are to heare the humbles fute.

Hir eies are fuch as will not gaze on things not worthy fight,

And where she ought to cast a looke she will not winke in spight.

The golden graines that greedie questes from forraine countries bring,

Ne shining Phœbus glittring beames that on his godhead spring;

No auncient amber, had in price of Roman matrons olde,

May be compared with fplendant haires that paffe the Venys golde.

Hir nose adorns hir countnance so in middle justly plaste,

As it at no time will permit hir beautie be defaste.

Hir mouth fo fmall, hir teeth fo white as any whale his bone,

Hir lips without fo lively red that passe the corall stone.

What neede I to describe hir cheekes, hir chin, or else hir pap?

For they are all as though the rofe lodge in the lillies lap.

What should I stand upon the rest or other parts depaint,

As little hand with fingers long? my wits are all to faint.

Yet this I fay in hir behalfe, if Helen were hir leeke,

Sir Paris neede not to difdaine hir through the feas to feeke;

Nor Menelaus was unwife or troupe Troians mad,

When he with them, and they with him, for hir fuch combat had.

Leanders labour was not loft that fwam the furging feas,

If Hero were of fuch a hue whome fo he fought to pleafe.

And if Admetus darling deere were of fo fresh a face,

Though Phœbus kept Admetus flock, it may not him difgrace;

Nor mightie Mavors waye the floutes, and laughing of the reft,

If fuch a one were shee with whome he lay in Vulcans nest.

If Bryfeis beautie were fo brave, Achylles needes no blame, Who left the campe and fled the field for loofing fuch a dame.

If fhee in Ida had bene feene with Pallas and the reft,

I doubt where Paris would have chofe Dame Venus for the beft;

Or if Pygmalion had but tane a glimfe of fuch a face,

He would not then his idoll dumbe fo fervently imbrace.

But what fhall neede fo many wordes in things that are fo plaine?

I fay but that I doubt where kinde can make the like againe.

The Lover in utter dispaire of his Ladies returne, in eche respect compares his estate with Troylus.

My cafe with Troylus may compare, For as he felt both forrow and care, Even fo doe I, most miser wight, That am a Troylus outright.

As ere he could atchieve his wish, He fed of many a dolefull dish, And day and night unto the skies The sielie Troian kest his eies, Requesting ruth at Cresids hande, In whome his life and death did stande, So night and day I spent in wo, Ere she hir pittic would bestow

To quight me from the painefull plight That made me be a martir right. As when at last he favour founde. And was recured of his wounde, His grutching griefes to comfort grue, And torments from the Troian flue; So when my ladie did remoove Hir rigour, and began to loove Hir vaffell in fuch friendly fort, As might appere by outward port, Then who began to joy but I, That stoode my mistresse hart so nie? Then (as the Troian did) I foong, And out my ladies vertues roong So lowde, as all the world could tell What was the meaning of the bell. And as that pleafant tafte of joy That he endured had in Troy, From fweete to fower did convart. When Crefida did thence depart, So my forepaffed pleafures arre By fpitefull fortune put a farre By hir departure from the place, Where I was woont to view hir face, So angelike that shone in fight Surpassing Phœbus golden light. As when that Diomed the Greeke Had given the Troian foe the gleeke. And reft him Crefids comely hue Which often made his hart to rue. The wofull Troylus did lament,

And dolefull dayes in mourning spent, So I, bereft my looving make, To fighs and fobbings mee betake, Repining that my fortune is Of my defired friend to miffe, And that a guilefull Greeke should bee Efteemde of hir in fuch degree. But though my fortune frame awrie, And I, dispoylde hir companie, Must waste the day and night in wo, For that the gods appointed fo, I naytheleffe will wish hir well And better than to Crefid fell: I pray she may have better hap Than beg hir bread with dish and clap, As shee, the sielie miser, did, When Troylus by the spittle rid. God shield hir from the lazars lore, And lothfome leapers flincking fore, And for the love I earst hir bare I wish hir as my selfe to fare: My felfe that am a Troian true As shee full well by triall knue. And as King Priams worthie fonne All other ladies feemde to shonne, For love of Crefid; fo do I All Venus dearlings quight defie, In minde to love them all aleeke, That leave a Troian for a Greeke.

The Lover declareth what he would have, if he might obtaine his wish.

If Gods would daine to lend
a liftning eare to mee,
And yeelde me my demaunde at full,

what think you it to bee?

Not to excell in feate, or wield the regall mace,

Or fcepter in fuch ftately fort as might commende the place:

For as their hawte is hie, fo is their ruine rough,

As those that earst hath felt the fall declare it well ynough.

Ne would I wish by warre and bloudie blade in fist,

To gore the grounde with giltleffe bloud of fuch as would refift:

For tirants though a while doe leade their lives in joy,

Yet tirants trie, in trackt of time, how bloudshed doth annoy.

I would none office crave, ne confulfhip requeft,

For that fuch rule is full of rage, and fraught with all unreft.

Ne would I wish for welth in great excesse to flow,

Which keepes the keyes of discords denne, as all the world doth know;

But my defire fhould farre fuch base requests excell,

That I might hir enjoy at will whome I doe love fo well.

O mightie God of gods!

I were affured than

In happie hap him to furpasse, that were the happiest man:

Then might I martch in mirth with well contented minde,

And joy to thinke that I in love fuch bliffefull hap did finde.

What friendly wordes would we togither then recite;

More than my tongue is able tell, or this poore pen to write:

Then should my hart rejoyce and thereby comfort take,

As they have felt that earst have had the use of such a make.

If Fortune then would frowne, or fought me to difgrace,

The touching of hir cherrie lip fuch forrowes would displace.

Or if fuch griefe did growe as might procure my fmart,

Hir long and limber armes to mee might foone reduce my hart.

For as by foming flouds the fleeting fifnes lives,

To falamanders as the flame their onely comfort gives,

So doth thy beautie (P.) my forrowes quite expell,

And makes me fare where I should faint, unlesse thou loovdste mee well.

And as by waters want, fish falleth to decay,

And falamander cannot live when flame is tane away,

So absence from hir fight whole seas of forrowes makes,

Which prefence of that paragon by fecret vertue flakes.

Would Death would spare to spoyle, and crooked age to rafe

(As they are woont by course of kinde)
Pees beautie in this case;

Yet though their rigor rage, and powre by proofe be plaine,

If P. should die to morrow next, yet P. should live againe;

For phœnix by his kinde to phœnix will returne,

When he by force of Phœbus flame in fcalding skies doe burne.

Then P. must needes revive that is a phoenix plaine,

And P. by lack of lively breath fhall be a P. againe.

Of a Gentlewoman that wilde hir Lover to weare greene Bayes, in token of hir stedfast love towards him.

B. TOLDE me that the bay would aye be greene, And never chaunge his hue for winters thret; Wherefore (quoth fhee) that plainely may be feene What love thy ladie beares, the lawrell get.

A braunch aloft upon the helmet weare, Prefuming that, untill the lawrell die And loze his native colour, I will beare A faithfull hart, and never fwerve awrie.

I (fiely foule) did fmile with joyfull brow, Hoping that Daphnis would retaine hir hue, And not have chaungde; and lykewife that the vow My ladie made would make my ladie true.

O Gods! beholde the chaunce: I wore the tree, And honord it as ftay of ftedfast love, But sodainely the lawrell might I see
To looke as browne as doth the brownest dove.

I marveld much at this unwoonted fight: Within a day or two came newes to mee That shee had chaungde, & fwarvde hir friendship quight, Wherefore affie in neither trull nor tree.

For I perceive that colours lightly chaunge, And ladies love on fodaine waxeth ftraunge.

An Epitaph of Maisler Edwards, sometime Maisler of the Children of the Chappell, and Gentleman of Lyncolns Inne of Court.

YE learned Muses nine, and facred Sisters all,

Now lay your cheerefull cithrons downe, and to lamenting fall.

Rent off those garlands greene, do lawrell leaves away,

Remove the myrtell from your browes, and ftint on ftrings to play;

For he that led the daunce, the chiefest of your traine,

(I meane the man that Edwards height) by cruell death is flaine.

Yee courtyers chaunge your cheere, lament in wailefull wife,

For now your Orpheus hath refignde; in clay his carcas lyes.

O ruth! he is bereft that whilft he lived heere

For poets pen and passing wit could have no English peere.

His vaine in verfe was fuch, fo ftately eke his ftile,

His feate in forging fugred fongs with cleane and curious file,

As all the learned Greekes and Romaines would repine,

If they did live againe, to vewe his verfe with fcornefull eine.

From Plautus he the palme and learned Terence wan:

His writings well declarde the wit that lurcked in the man.

O Death! thou ftoodste in dread that Edwards by his art

And Wifedome would have scapte thy shaft, and fled thy furious dart. This feare enforfte thy fift thy curfed bow to bende, And let the fatall arrow flie that Edwards life did ende. But spite of all thy spite, when all thy hate is tride, (Thou curfed Death!) his earned praife in mouth of man shall bide. Wherefore (O Fame!) I fay to trumpe thy lips applie, And blow a blaft that Edwards brute may pierce the golden skie. For here bylow in earth his name is fo well knowne. As eche, that knew his life, laments that hee fo foone is gone.

An Epitaph on the death of Maister Arthur Brooke, drownde in passing to New Haven.

AT point to ende and finishe this my booke, Came good report to mee, and wild me write A dolefull verse in praise of Authur Brooke, That age to come lament his fortune might.

Agreede (quoth I) for fure his vertues were As many as his yeares in number few: The muses him in learned laps did beare, And Pallas dug this daintie bab did chew.

Apollo lent him lute, for folace fake To sound his verse by touch of stately string, And of the never fading baye did make A lawrell crowne, about his browes to cling;

In prouse that he for myter did excell, As may be iudge by Julyet and hir mate; For there he shewde his cunning passing well, When he the tale to English did translate.

But what? as he to forraine realme was bownd With others moe, his foveraigne queene to ferve, Amid the feas unluckie youth was drownd; More fpeedie death than fuch one did deferve.

Aye mee! that time (thou crooked delphin) where Wast thou, Aryons help and onely stay, That safely him from sea to shore didst beare? When Brooke was drownd why wast you then away?

If found of harp thine eare delighted fo, And caufer was that he bestrid thy back, Then doubtlesse thou moughtst wel on Brooke bestow As good a turne, to save him from the wrack.

For fure his hande Aryons harp exceld, His pleafant pen did paffe the others fkill: Who fo his booke with judging eie beheld Gave thanks to him, and praifde his learned quill.

Thou cruel goulf, what meanst thou to devowre With supping seas a jewell of such same? Why didst thou so with water marre the flowre That Pallas thought so curiously to frame?

Unhappie was the haven which he fought, Cruell the feas whereon his ship did glide, The winds to rough that Brooke to ruine brought, Unfkilfull he that undertooke to glide [guide].

But fithens teares can not revoke the ded,
Nor cries recall a drowned man to lande,
Let this fuffice textall the life he led,
And print his prayfe in house of Fame to stande,
That they that after us shall be and live.

That they that after us shall bee and live Deserved praise to Arthur Brooke may give,

(qd) G. T.

Of the renowmed Lady, Lady Anne Counteffe Warwick.

AN earle was your fire, a worthie wight;
A cownteffe gave you tet, a noble dame;
An earle is your feere, a Mars outright;
A cownteffe eke your felfe of bruted fame;
A brother lorde, your father earles fonne:
Thus doth your line in lordes and earles ronne.

You were well knowne of Ruffels race a childe, Of Bedfords blood that now doth live an earle, Now Warwicks wife, a warlike man in fielde, A Venus peere, a ritch and orient pearle: Wherefore to you, that fifter, childe, and wife To lorde and earles are, I wish long life.

You Alpha were when I this booke begoonne, And formoft, as became your flate, did flande; To be Omega now you will not floonne, (O noble dame!) I truft; but take with hande This ragged rime, and with a courteous looke, And cownteffe eie, peruse this tryfling booke.

The Authours Epiloge to his Booke.

THE countnance of this noble cowntesse marck, When she, thy verse with eie that saphire like Doth shine, survayes; let be thy onely carck To note hir lookes: and if she ought mislike, Say that thou shoulds have hid it from hir sight: Thy authour made the best for hir delight.

The woorst he willde in covert scrole to lurke, Untill the beare were overlickt asresh; For why, in deede this hastie hatched wurke Resembleth much the shapelesse lumpe of slesh That beares bring forth: so, when I lick thee over, Thou shalt (I trust) thy persite shape recover.

FINIS.

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FINIS.

[Under a wood-cut of a Ecar and ragged staff, and a Lion.]

The Lyon stout, whom never earst could any beast subdue,
Here (Madame) as you see doth yeelde both to your Beare and you.

Imprinted at London

by Henry Denham

dwelling in Pater
nofter Rowe, at

the figne of

the Starre.

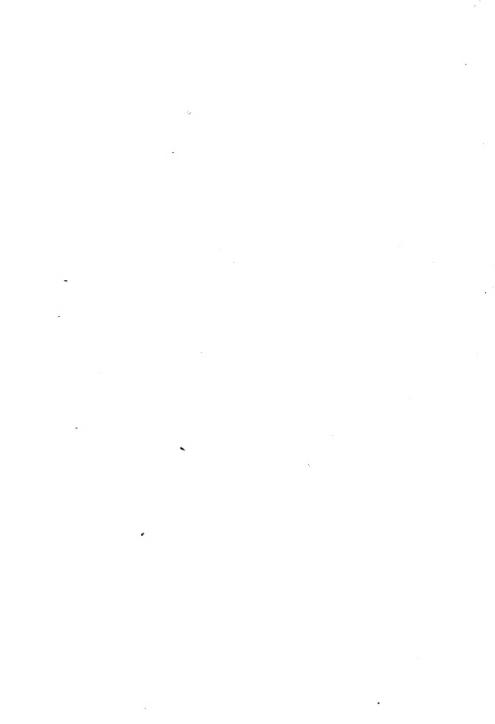
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